

# ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

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

N° 143, March 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](mailto:poser@hsu-hh.de)

### Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Preparation of our next symposium in Rio de Janeiro (23 – 29 July 2017) is ongoing; please find a contribution of Luiz Carlos Soares (Chair of the ICHST Local Organizing Committee). The deadline of early registration is **14 April 2017**.

ICOHTEC announces travel grants for attending the ICHST/ICOHTEC symposium; the deadline of application is **27 March 2017**. A form is attached to the Newsletter and available online.

ICOHTEC Members have the opportunity to inform about their books in the Book Corner on ICOHTEC's homepage. This *service for members* is available for books which were published some years ago as well as for recently published ones; please find a link to submit your information on <http://www.icohtec.org/publications-book-corner.html> or contact our Secretary General and Webmaster, Sławomir Łotysz, [s.lotysz@gmail.com](mailto:s.lotysz@gmail.com).

Best wishes  
Stefan Poser

## Contents

I. ICOHTEC and ICHST	p. 2
II. Conference Announcements	p. 4
III. Call for Reviews	p. 18
IV. Scholarships	p. 19
V. Join ICOHTEC	p. 20

## I. ICOHTEC and ICHST

### 25<sup>th</sup> ICHST Rio 2017

Dear Colleague,

We would like to inform you that the webpage of the 25<sup>th</sup> International Congress of History of Science and Technology will be updated until the end of this month with the list of the symposia which will effectively take place and the stand-alone papers approved by the International Programme Committee. Please note that the full program, with presentation dates and times, will be released on the webpage on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2017.

It is also important to remind you that registration is already open to all congress participants. The full fee for early registration, until 14 April 2017, is BRL 704.00 (USD 220.00) and the full late registration fee, until 30 June 2017, is BRL 960.00 (USD 300.00). The registration fee must be paid via PayPal. Access the registration form and further information is on

<http://www.ichst2017.sbhc.org.br/inscricoes/capa>

Those who want to purchase lunch time meals during the congress week will find this option in the registration form, with regular and vegetarian alternatives of lunch boxes at the price of BRL 25.00 (USD 8.00), for any number of days from 24 July (Monday) to 29 July (Saturday) 2017. Each lunch box comprises 1 glass of fruit juice, 1 salad, 1 quiche or sandwich, and 1 dessert, with daily ingredient variations. None of these items contains industrially processed or refined foods.

A confraternization dinner is scheduled for the night of 29 July 2017, from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Congress participants interested in attending this dinner may acquire a ticket during the registration process. The dinner will be held at the Grand Hall of Botafogo Futebol e Regatas Club, located near the congress venue at Avenida Venceslau Brás, nº 72, Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro. Dinner tickets cost BRL 150.00 (USD 47.00), and each participant may purchase one additional ticket for a guest. The menu will include multiple dishes, with vegetarian options, as well as mineral water, soft drinks, beer and wines. There are 400 seats available until sell-out.

Regarding travel and accommodation, the Local Organizing Committee is working alongside Promotional Travel, which is the official travel agency of the 25<sup>th</sup> ICHST. Participants may seek direct

assistance from the agency to book hotels, air tickets and tours. Please visit <http://www.ichst2017.sbhc.org.br/travel-and-hotel-reservations>

Windsor Hotels is the official chain of the event, offering discounted prices on different kinds of rooms and hotel categories, if booked through Promotional Tavel. Other alternatives for accommodation may be found in the congress website, <http://www.ichst2017.sbhc.org.br/travel-and-hotel-reservations>

Finally, we would like to reproduce a message from one of the publishers that will be participating in the Book Exhibit taking place during the 25<sup>th</sup> ICHST. The Local Organizing Committee considers it has a general interest, as it consists in an invitation from Springer International Publishing to congress participants to present and discuss their projects with its Publishing Editor:

Springer is working along with the 25<sup>th</sup> International Congress of History of Science and Technology to commission new edited collections, research monographs and student-friendly works in. Participants of the conference are invited to discuss publishing projects arising from their papers and sessions with Lucy Fleet (Publishing Editor) at [Lucy.Fleet@springer.com](mailto:Lucy.Fleet@springer.com) or come along to the exhibit booth. Titles on display will be donated to the hosting faculty after the meeting.

If you have any doubt about the registration process or accommodation booking please contact the Local Organizing Committee through the e-mail [contact@ichst2017.sbhc.org.br](mailto:contact@ichst2017.sbhc.org.br).

Best regards,

Luiz Carlos Soares (Chair of the Local Organizing Committee)  
The Local Organizing Committee (Chair: Luiz Carlos Soares / Office Secretary: Gabriela Evangelista)  
<http://www.ichst2017.sbhc.org.br/>

### **Travel Grants for Rio de Janeiro Congress**

As every year, ICOHTEC is offering financial support for those coming to its annual symposium which will take place. The grants will be made available largely thanks to a generous support from Juanelo Turriano Foundation and the Division of History of Science and Technology. Please download the form from <http://www.icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2017.html>, fill it in and send back to Yoel Bergman, the Treasurer & Chair of the Travel Grant Committee at [yoelb@protalix.com](mailto:yoelb@protalix.com) by **March 27, 2017**. The grants will be announced by April 3.

Sławomir Łotysz  
Secretary General  
Member of the Travel Grant Committee

## II. Congress Announcements

**20 March 2017**

**Visibility: Den Nutzen der Bibliothek analysieren und darstellen / Visibility: analyzing and presenting the library's benefits**

**Workshop in the Iron Library, Schaffhausen, Switzerland**

A workshop on the topic of "Visibility" will be held at the Iron Library on 20 March (in German). It is aimed at all employees from small libraries who wish to acquaint themselves with cost-benefit analysis issues and the promising strategies of internal public relations activities. There are still some places available.

Please visit [http://www.bib-info.de/ausfortbildung/fortbildung/fortbildungskalender/veranstaltungsdetails.html?tx\\_seminars\\_pi1\[showUid\]=797](http://www.bib-info.de/ausfortbildung/fortbildung/fortbildungskalender/veranstaltungsdetails.html?tx_seminars_pi1[showUid]=797)

**30 March 2017**

**Langlebiges Familienunternehmen trotz Konfliktes in der Unternehmerfamilie?! / Durable Family-owned Enterprises and Disputes of the Owners. Symposium of the German Society of Business History, Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte GUG, and the Wittener Institut für Familienunternehmen**

Messer Group GmbH, Bad Soden am Taunus, Germany

Please visit <http://unternehmensgeschichte.de/files/wifu%20-%20gug%202017/GUG%20Symposion-6.pdf>

Please contact: [staufenberg@unternehmensgeschichte.de](mailto:staufenberg@unternehmensgeschichte.de)

**31 March 2017**

**The Power Switch. How Power is Changing in a Networked World**

CRASSH, Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Cambridge, UK

Please visit <http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/27100>

**11 April 2017**

**Paris et les expositions universelles. Conférence de Christine Demeulenaere-Douyère (conservateur général, EHESS) donnée dans le cadre du cycle de conférences "Paris, de la Restauration à la Grande Guerre"**

Institut d'études avancées de Paris

Please visit <http://www.paris-iea.fr/fr/evenements/paris-et-les-expositions-universelles>

Please contact [information@paris-iea.fr](mailto:information@paris-iea.fr)

**31 August 2017**

## **The British Post Office in the Telecommunications Era**

London

CFP – Deadline **1 May 2017**

This is a call for papers for a workshop which will explore the history of the British Post Office from its monopolisation of the telegraph service in 1869 under control of the state until the privatisation of the telecommunications business as British Telecom. The history of the Post Office's communication networks has, until recently, long been one of state monopoly, and the twentieth-century Post Office was both one of the UK's largest state bureaucracies and largest employers. However, in contrast, it is apparent that histories of the Post Office are as disconnected as they are diverse, and so this workshop will synthesise these approaches and foreground the Post Office. We are influenced by numerous histories where the Post Office is explored on diverse registers. For example, Duncan Campbell-Smith (2012) explores the history of the Post Office as a business organisation since its inception, whereas Patrick Joyce (2013) locates the Post Office as central to the networks and systems of the state used to communicate power. Business and the state alone, however, are not our foci: from Frank Bealey's (1976) observation of the unique position of Post Office engineering staff as Civil Servants, to Iwan Rhys Morus' (2000) analysis of the telegraph's promise of "instant intelligence" to Victorian society and the state, there has long been recognised an intrinsic technological element to the modern Post Office. How might these histories be synthesised? There are histories which include the Post Office's role in regulating the emergence of radio astronomy (Agar, 1998), the interaction of computerisation and mechanisation with gender workplace relations (Hicks, 2017), and with the Post Office Savings Bank (Campbell-Kelly, 1998). There are now projects which explore the Post Office's role in developing assistive technologies for hearing loss (AHRC/Action for Hearing Loss) and as a site of government research (AHRC/The Science Museum). This range of subjects will therefore draw on and speak to different specialties: general history, political history, science and technology studies (including history of science and technology), business history, and cultural history. This call for papers recognises this fact, whilst seeking to focus discussion productively by asking for papers that satisfy the following criteria: a) papers that take a primarily historical approach; b) papers that focus on the British Post Office; c) papers that broadly discuss the Post Office and technology; d) papers that focus on the Post Office commencing from its monopolisation of telecommunications networks. Possible subjects include, but are not restricted to:

- Technological systems and the Post Office
- The bureaucratic Post Office (the "Government Machine")
- The material and visual culture of the telephone and telegraph services
- The telephone and telegraph services in popular culture
- Architecture, exchange buildings and sorting offices
- Mechanisation, parcel sorting and exchange automation
- Involvement in wartime science and technology projects (e.g. Colossus)
- Gender and Post Office telecom, from telephone users to operators
- The Post Office and assistive technologies (e.g. hearing aids, amplified telephones)

- Financial technologies (“FinTech”) in historical context, e.g. National Giro, Post Office Savings Bank
- Regulation, broadcasting and the airwaves, from pirate radio to radio telescopes
- The Post Office and privatisation, the creation of British Telecom
- Comparative/connective national historiographies of the Post Office

‘The British Post Office in the Telecommunications Era’ will take place at The Science Museum on 31st August 2017. Registration will be free. We invite proposals for twenty-minute papers. Proposals of no more than 350 words, together with the name and institutional affiliation of the speaker should be sent to Jacob Ward at [jacob.ward.12@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:jacob.ward.12@ucl.ac.uk). The closing date for submissions is 1st May 2017. The workshop is convened by PhD candidates Rachel Boon, University of Manchester, Alice Haigh, University of Leeds, and Jacob Ward, UCL, in conjunction with The Science Museum.

Kind regards,

Rachel Boon, Alice Haigh, and Jacob Ward

Please visit [http://www.gtg.tu-berlin.de/ws/images/banners/pdf/cfp/CfP\\_British\\_Post\\_2017.docx.pdf](http://www.gtg.tu-berlin.de/ws/images/banners/pdf/cfp/CfP_British_Post_2017.docx.pdf)  
Please contact Jacob Ward at [jacob.ward.12@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:jacob.ward.12@ucl.ac.uk)

**20 – 22 September 2017**

**Business beyond Businesses: Agency, Political Economy & Investors, c.1850-1970**

Tübingen, Germany

CFP – Deadline **30 April 2017**

The University of Tübingen (Germany) as part of its Institutional Strategy (ZUK 63) has made available funding for an intensive three-day event aimed at PhD students in business or economic history or affiliated fields working on any topic which overlaps with the theme of the school (for more details, see ‘further notes for applicants’, below). Students will be hosted in the historic town of Tübingen, and will present, debate and discuss their work-in-progress with leading international scholars within a world-class university.

The school aims to provide doctoral students with an overview of relevant research and of innovative tools and methodologies in the field of enquiry. It is organised jointly by the Seminar für Neuere Geschichte (Tübingen) and the Centre for Business History in Scotland (University of Glasgow).

The school will take the form of presentations from students (c.25 minutes) and workshops hosted by established experts in the field. The aims of the school are:

- 1) To deepen students’ understanding of current themes in historical research (and how this can inform their own work).
- 2) To enhance research skills through masterclasses on methods for researching and writing history.
- 3) To explore the main theoretical underpinnings particular to business and economic history.

4) To provide a welcoming and convivial environment in which to discuss their research with leading scholars and peers.

Students will benefit from the experience of academics from Tübingen and beyond. Our keynote speaker will be Professor Phil Scranton, of Rutgers University (USA), a world-renowned scholar who has produced numerous books and articles on many different aspects of modern business and technology. Other confirmed participants include Professor Patrick Fridenson (EHESS, France), Professor Ewald Frie (Tübingen), Dr Daniel Menning (Tübingen), and Dr Christopher Miller (Glasgow).

Funding will cover flights and/or trains (up to an agreed limit), accommodation, lunches, and the conference meal for up to ten students. A further ten will be eligible to receive part-funding. There may also be limited space left-over for those wishing to self-fund (or have received funding from their own institution).

Those interested in attending the summer school should send the documents listed below by e-mail to the organisers Dr Daniel Menning (Daniel.Menning@uni-tuebingen.de) and Dr Christopher Miller (Christopher.Miller@glasgow.ac.uk). The deadline for applications is 1 May 2016. A maximum of 20 funded applicants will be selected and notified shortly afterwards.

- 1) a brief CV (max two pages)
- 2) a summary of their PhD (max two pages);
- 3) a title/abstract for their desired presentation topic (max one page). This should incorporate one or more major themes of the student's PhD.
- 4) (desirable) an example of work in progress, e.g. a draft chapter, article, working paper (preferably in English, German or French – though all presentations and discussions will be in English).

Further Notes for Applicants:

Overview of scope and aims of school:

(This overview is a guide only. Students working on similar topics to those listed below are encouraged to speak to Daniel Menning and/or Christopher Miller in the first instance)

Business history and economic history have been distinct disciplines, separate from both economics and organizational studies, for over three-quarters of a century. They have developed a rich and varied historiography that has helped to answer and contextualize some of the largest questions of the last two centuries. These include explaining rapid technological changes of the industrial and information ages, the globalization of financial and production markets, and, not least, the rise of Capitalism itself. However, recent trends have in some cases deepened the divide with 'traditional' history and historiography. For instance, business history has often found its natural home in business schools rather than history departments, while economic history is increasingly undertaken in a highly quantitative manner in economics, rather than history, faculties. However, while much work remains to be done to redress the balance, new approaches from historians are starting to re-bridge the divide. We believe historians engaged in archival research have much to offer business and economic topics, and it is work in this area that this summer school intends to foster.

More particularly, the school will examine one of the major ‘problems’ prevalent in the existing literature. Simply put, the firm – that is the company or organization itself – has been the unit of assessment most prevalent in business and economic historiography, matched only by overviews of national economies or government policies. Many historians, economists and business scholars have made their careers explaining the rise (and fall) of major corporations, or the successes and failures of a nation’s economy or core industries. However, while these studies have been immensely valuable, such narratives of success and/or failure have missed, or not yet fully developed, important nuances as a result.

We have identified two major issues such nation or firm-specific studies fail to capture, and have broken them down as follows:

1. Business people regularly move between firms, but they also move into, influence, or create, organizations outside the world of private profit-seeking business. These can be linked to politics, government, the military, education, health care and the environment, philanthropy, promotion of trade, and/or other pursuits. Their work can transcend state, national, and continental boundaries, and can influence entire economic systems. For example, businessmen have advised military production ministries in Britain during (and between) both World Wars; business leaders collaborated with municipal authorities on measures to reduce smoke pollution in 19th century Chicago; and in more recent times have changed the face of private higher education with multi-million dollar donations to their Alma Mater, and indirectly have aided the rise of the modern ‘Business School’ itself. Thus, businessmen seek to influence – though not always for private profit – the world that their businesses operate in, and this has not often been captured in existing studies of firms or economies.

2. Similarly, businesses are not only influenced by the acumen of their managers, by the general state of the economy or by governmental regulation. With the creation of joint-stock companies, external private investors entered the field of business, for various reasons and with myriad motives. Some desired to achieve a permanent stream of income. These investors’ sentiments became a force that was hard to ignore, as witnessed during stock market bubbles in England, France and the Netherlands as early as the 18th century. Technological (and legal) changes after 1860 accelerated these processes. Some new investors entered the market simply for the thrill and/or for the financial gains possible by means of speculation, perhaps with little or no interest in the businesses at all. Nevertheless, this group, often already wealthy and influential, helped create more volatile markets, and caused unease among politicians and business people in the process. Moreover, when such individuals were left as losers following the bursting of the bubbles they helped create, their complaints were loud and public. In short, the role of speculation and the attempts to define or limit what kind of investors should be allowed to enter this world (and, thus, the world of business) are also important in understanding the environment beyond the boundary of the firm or nation that businesses operated in.

Furthermore, while these problems are not completely unique to the modern world, they acquired greater significance from the second-half of the 19th century. The second-wave of industrialization after 1850 (primarily in Britain, Germany, Japan and America) gave birth to larger corporations and professional management structures, which gradually diminished the role of wholly family-owned and/or operated firms. In their place, joint stock firms further proliferated with some (such as General Motors) growing and transitioning to multi-divisional and multi-national conglomerates by

the 1930s. In turn, this allowed for the rise in the wealth and influence of professional business magnates such as Charles Schwab (Bethlehem Steel), Alfred Sloan (GM), and others. Simultaneously, technological advances in communication and technology – from the telegraph to the ticker tape – allowed real-time transactions and completely transformed stock market speculation, increasing the number of willing participants and tradable shares dramatically. As such, the cases of business going beyond the firm or the national boundary multiplied dramatically from this point, and offer up myriad exciting avenues for historical research.

Similarly, though in recent times we understand well the nature of a ‘globalized’ world in which firms and agents transcend company or national boundaries, the term itself has its roots in the 1970s. The vast increase in computing power and the equally dramatic decrease in the cost of aviation in the last forty or so years means we could reasonably understand this later period as an era unto itself, in much the way the transformation of firms and speculation was a century earlier. For these reasons, the summer school plans to concentrate on this particularly volatile century or so of change, and would invite papers from PhD students working on business and economic topics broadly defined from roughly 1850 to 1970.

To aid interested students, some of the specific questions to be addressed in global, national, regional, and comparative contexts might include the following:

- What constitutes entrepreneurship, innovation or efficiency outside the context of the private profit-seeking firm?
- How did business people moving into other organizations change their ways of doing things, and vice versa? How did they attain (and retain) influence, and have these movements changed over time?
- How have business people and their behavior and attitudes affected the structures and practices of other organizations or politics?
- How have the interrelationships between business and other organizations affected the structures, strategies, and practices of the firm?
- How do business leaders use nonprofit-making activities outside the firm to advance their own entrepreneurial activity through measures to create good will? What impact have charitable donations from business had on technologic or scientific development?
- Are some national or regional governance structures, business networks, more conducive than others to fostering movement and mutual learning between business and organizations than others, and, if so, why?
- How did politicians and businessmen deal with the influence of investors on businesses?
- What were the attitudes in business, government and society towards speculation for pure gain and how did these change over time?
- How were investors with limited or no knowledge in the world of business supposed to survive or, better even, win money in the world of the stock exchange?
- How did technology affect the ability of people to get involved in the world of business?

In sum, this school will on one level explore the interrelationships between business practice/entrepreneurs and the actors, organizations, and institutions of the broader social and political environment. On another, it will study the influence of ‘outsiders’ upon the wider economy and society, both by means of speculation on the business world and by the reactions of governments and business community to their actions. These are very large and important

questions which are only slowly beginning to be tackled by historians, and our hope is that the summer school will help to map out and better understand spheres of business beyond the national economies or particular firms, to the benefit not only of history students, but to show why and how history can benefit the kinds of studies that have hitherto taken place mainly in economics faculties or business schools.

Please visit <http://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-33377>

Please contact the organizers: [Daniel.Menning@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:Daniel.Menning@uni-tuebingen.de),  
[Christopher.Miller@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Christopher.Miller@glasgow.ac.uk)

#### **4 – 6 May 2017**

**„Mit den wohlfeilsten Mitteln dauerhaft, feuersicher und bequem" – Sparsamkeit als Prinzip, Rationalität als Weltsicht? 3. Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Bautechnikgeschichte, BTG / 3rd Annual Conference of the German Society for Construction History**

Potsdam, Germany

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

Please contact: [info@bautechnikgeschichte.org](mailto:info@bautechnikgeschichte.org)

#### **9 – 11 October 2017**

**The 9th annual S.NET meeting**

Arizona State University

CFP – Deadline **24 March 2017**

The Society for the Study of New and Emerging Technologies (S.NET) is an international association that promotes intellectual exchange and critical inquiry about the advancement of new and emerging technologies in society. S.NET represents diverse communities, disciplines, viewpoints, and methodologies in the social sciences and humanities. It welcomes contributions from scientists and engineers that advance the critical reflection of nanoscience and other emerging technologies.

#### *Engaging the Flux*

This year's meeting will provide a forum for scholarly engagement and reflection on the meaning of coupled socio-technical change as a contemporary political phenomenon, a recurrent historical theme, and an object of future anticipation.

Even the most seemingly stable entities fluctuate over time: facts and artifacts, cultures and constitutions, people and planets. As new and old act and interact within broader systems of time, space, and meaning, scholars, practitioners, and citizens not only observe but participate in the co-production of scientific discovery and technological innovation with social, political, and economic reconfiguration.

In embracing flux as its theme, the 2017 S.NET conference encourages participants to confront head on the place of science and technology in changing societies: What roles do new and emerging technologies play in the seemingly rapid and accelerating pace of political change reverberating across the planet? How can we square the power of science to generate knowledge and drive innovation with the power of discourses of “post-truth” and “alternative facts”? What kind of democracies are possible in today’s technology-dominated landscapes of communications, politics, identity, and legitimation?

*Topics of interest include the following:*

- Changing conceptions, responsibilities, and politics of knowledge, experts, and expertise;
- Shifting practices and performances of promoting, resisting, accepting, and embracing epistemic and socio-technical change;
- Evolving understandings of the university, and of education more generally, and their contributions to preparing diverse participants in the politics of emergence;
- Fluctuating cultural resources for understanding and navigating social and technological disruption;
- Emerging norms and practices for assessing credibility and building trust in science and technology;
- Realigning vulnerabilities and resiliencies in socio-technical systems at local, national and international scales and their meanings and implications for the governance of science, technology, and society;
- Stabilizing and destabilizing socio-technical identities, imaginaries, and relationships and their consequences for confidence in the institutions of science, innovation, and democracy;
- New and old strategies and practices of power and dissent and their intersections in the socio-technical landscapes of the present and future.

We invite individual paper submissions, open panel and closed session proposals, student posters, and special format sessions, including innovative audio-visual formats and art installations, storytelling fora, pop-up maker labs, and other interactive formats.

The deadline for abstract submissions is March 24, 2017. Abstracts should be approximately 250 words in length, and emailed in PDF format to [2017snet@gmail.com](mailto:2017snet@gmail.com). Notifications of acceptance can be expected by April 30, 2017

Please visit <https://sfis.asu.edu/news-events/2017-annual-snet-meeting>

Please contact [2017snet@gmail.com](mailto:2017snet@gmail.com)

**18 – 21 October 2017**

**V Congreso Internacional sobre documentación, conservación y reutilización del patrimonio arquitectónico y paisajístico / V International Conference on Documentation, Conservation and Restoration of the Architectural Heritage and Landscape Protection**  
Granada, Spain

CFP – Deadline **27 March 2017**

ReUSO is a prestigious international conference that brings together researchers from all over the five continents to discuss about the reusability of architectural and urban heritage, cultural and industrial landscapes. This interdisciplinary, scientific and global conference addresses methodological, technical, academic or project issues on documentation, conservation, reusability and recovery of architectural, urban or landscape heritage.

ReUSO Granada 2017 will be the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of a conference which will be alternately held between Spain and Italy. Previous conference headquarters have been the *Universidad Politécnica de Madrid* (ReUSO2013), the *Università degli Studi di Firenze* (ReUSO2014), the *Universidad Politécnica de Valencia* (ReUSO2015), and, last year, the *Università degli Studi di Pavia* (ReUSO2016).

This year, ReUSO, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, will be held in Granada, the City of the Alhambra on the 18<sup>th</sup> (opening), 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October. It will be organized by the *Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura* and the *Departamento de Construcciones Arquitectónicas*, University of Granada, in collaboration with the Polytechnic University of Madrid (Spain) and the University of Florence (Italy). The conference headquarters for this edition will be the School of Architecture of Granada.

ReUSO, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, seeks to enhance the knowledge of methodologies and intervention strategies on buildings, urban spaces, landscape or industrial-architectural heritage, with the focus on its revaluation and conservation.

The approach taken is necessarily multidisciplinary. Nowadays disciplines need each other in order to go deeper into any issue, be it scientific, technological or humanistic.

This conference is also an ideal forum to share academic challenges, research projects goals, as well as normative, legal or economic aspirations. ReUSO seeks not only to enhance the scientific knowledge of its core topics, but it also aims at highlighting other apparently minor topics which are equally important, such as a humble, self-taught but respectful with existing architecture, and studies on legal issues concerning the built heritage recovery. This conference urges to think about the periphery of the core or more academic topics; it urges to make all ends meet, surface and content, in order to complete the knowledge about what ReUSO means.

Once again, as in previous editions, this conference offers a wide array of study cases, building projects, urban spaces, landscapes, cities, industrial and architectural heritage.

The fourth dimension of architecture, *i.e.* time, is a reality that cannot be dismissed in any of its manifestations; be it the most technical study of the life cycle, or the valuation of the historical footprint in the built material. Time is and will inevitably be integral part of architectural design. We are moving towards an architecture made of time, a growing asset with its own prerogatives.

Please visit

[http://www.reusogranada.com/en/?utm\\_source=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=Newsletter+118+February+2017](http://www.reusogranada.com/en/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=Newsletter+118+February+2017)

Please contact [secretaria@reusogranada.com](mailto:secretaria@reusogranada.com)

**26 – 29 October 2017**

**Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, SHOT – Reminder**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

CFP – Deadlines **15 March 2017** (open session proposals) and **31 March 2017** (other proposals)

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: Individuals interested in finding others to join panel sessions for the Annual Meeting may propose Open Sessions, started January 20, with a final deadline of March 15. Open Sessions descriptions, along with organizer contact information, will appear as soon as possible

on the SHOT website. (The earlier the proposal, the earlier it will be posted to the 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 between January 15 and March 15.

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 is formulating its response to US Presidential measures to restrict access to the United States for select foreign nationals, including to our annual meeting. 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 please visit the SHOT website at [www.historyoftechnology.org](http://www.historyoftechnology.org)*

*The deadline for proposals is 31 March 2017, but please see special instructions for Open Sessions*

### **Reminder: open session proposals – deadline 15 March 2017**

Individuals interested in finding others to join panel sessions for the Annual Meeting may propose Open Sessions. The deadline for open panel proposals is March 15.

#### Submitting an open session proposal

Open Sessions proposals are limited to two pages total. The first page should include a title, session organizer name, and contact information at the top, followed by a paragraph or two clearly describing the proposed session topic or theme and its significance in the broader study of the history of technology.

Submit Open Session proposals in a single PDF or Word file to the secretary's office (SHOT.Secretariaat@tue.nl). The secretary's office will post the proposals on the SHOT-website.

#### Joining a proposed panel

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

*For more information and the already available open panel proposals*

please visit the SHOT-Website at:

[http://www.historyoftechnology.org/call\\_for\\_papers/open\\_panels.html](http://www.historyoftechnology.org/call_for_papers/open_panels.html)

*The deadline for proposals is 15 March 2017*

Jan Korsten  
Society for the History of Technology

### **1 – 2 November 2018**

#### **World War I and its Immediate Aftermath. 10th Blount Postal History Symposium**

The Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Washington, D.C

CFP – Deadline **15 June 2017**

The Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Washington, D.C. published a call for proposals for the 10th Blount Postal History Symposium that will take place November 1-2, 2018. The symposium is titled *World War I and its Immediate Aftermath*.

You can download the call for papers here:

[http://www.historyoftechnology.org/media/news\\_2017/CFP\\_national\\_postal\\_museum\\_2017.pdf](http://www.historyoftechnology.org/media/news_2017/CFP_national_postal_museum_2017.pdf)

### **17 – 18 November 2017**

#### **Colours in Technology – Technology of Colours. 40th Conference on History of Technology of the Eisenbibliothek /Iron Library 2017**

Schaffhausen, Switzerland

CFP – Deadline **30 April 2017**

The 40th History of Technology Conference will be held at the Kloostergut Paradies in Schlatt near Schaffhausen, Switzerland on 17 and 18 November 2017. The Conference has served as an outstanding platform for the exchange of ideas between research, teaching and industry since 1978. The speakers and the invited guests come from universities, libraries, collections and museums or contribute their business and industrial experience. The conferences are renowned for the breadth and topicality of the papers presented. You can find information on previous conferences on <http://www.eisenbibliothek.ch/content/gf/ironlibrary/en/events/tgt/tgt-past.html>

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 a scientific advisory board consisting of Dr. Gisela Hürlimann (ETH Zurich), 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.

Please find the whole call for papers on

[http://www.eisenbibliothek.ch/content/dam/ironlibrary/documents/de/TGT/tgt\\_2017/CFP\\_TGT\\_2017\\_e.pdf](http://www.eisenbibliothek.ch/content/dam/ironlibrary/documents/de/TGT/tgt_2017/CFP_TGT_2017_e.pdf)

Please contact Franziska Eggimann, Head Iron Library and Corporate Archivist Georg Fischer Ltd, [franziska.eggimann@georgfischer.com](mailto:franziska.eggimann@georgfischer.com)

**23 – 25 November 2017**

**RE:TRACE 2017 – 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference for Histories of Media Art, Science and Technology**

Krems and Vienna, Austria

CFP – Deadline **26 March 2017**

The 7th International Conference on the Histories of Media Art, Science and Technology titled RE:TRACE focuses on an evaluation of the status of the meta-discipline Media Art Histories today. The conference takes place November 23-25, 2017 in Krems and Vienna (Austria).

The organizing committee invites researchers of different areas, disciplines and practices to submit individual papers, posters and full panels with new and original research preferably in the following themes:

- MediaArtHistories – historiographies and futures of an ever-emerging field
- Institutional histories of Media Art
- Media Art & Politics (surveillance, climate, visualizations, etc.)
- Collecting media art / Media Art market
- Archiving, preserving and representing Media Art
- Re-Use of cultural heritage data, including education, learning and research
- Methodologies and research tools for MediaArtHistories with a focus on Digital Humanities
- International and local histories and practices of media art
- (Post-)Colonial experiences and non-Western histories of media art, science and technology
- Paradigm shift – Digital vs. Post-Digital Theory
- Alternative histories for Media Art in relation to newly evolving or unexpected fields.
- Models and perspectives of research fields adapted across traditional disciplinary lines.
- New symbolic architecture of digital super companies (Apple, Amazon, Microsoft, FB, Google)

The conference program will include competitively selected, peer-reviewed individual papers, panel presentations and posters, as well as a small number of invited speakers. Presentations will be delivered in a range of formats, from panel discussions to a poster session. The organizers particularly encourage submissions by researchers from international contexts outside of Europe and North America.

Submission Deadline: March 26, 2017

Please visit: <http://www.mediaarthistory.org/retrace>

**9 – 13 July 2018**

**6th International Congress on Construction History**

Brussels

Call for Sessions – Deadline **1 April 2017**

The 6th International Congress on Construction History (<http://6icch.org>) will be organized in Brussels, from July 9 to July 13, 2018. For the first time, we will organise thematic sessions as well as the usual open ones. Today we launch the call for sessions (see attachment) and we are looking forward to receive your proposals by April 1, 2017.

Important deadlines:

Submit sessions: April 1, 2017

Call for abstracts: May 1, 2017

Submit abstracts: June 15, 2017

Submit papers: December 1, 2017

Best wishes from the organising committee,

Inge Bertels

Organising committee

KU Leuven (Krista De Jonge)

Universiteit Antwerpen (Michael de Bouw)

Université Catholique de Louvain (Patricia Radelet-de Grave, Denis Zastavni)

Université Libre de Bruxelles (Rika Devos, Bernard Espion)

Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Inge Bertels, Stephanie Van de Voorde, Ine Wouters)

Please visit <http://www.vub.ac.be/ARCH/ae-lab/images/reuse/6ICCH-2018-Call-for-Sessions.pdf>

Please contact [info@6icch.org](mailto:info@6icch.org)

### III. Call for Reviews

Dear ICOHTEC Colleagues,

*Endeavour*, a leading journal in the history and philosophy of science, is actively soliciting reviews from scholars working in a variety of disciplines and from everywhere along the career path.

While the journal previously confined itself to traditional book reviews, we are in the process of expanding our reviews section to “Reviews and Commentary.” This means that a wide variety of topics would be appropriate for our publication.

These are a few examples of the types of reviews of interest; those of: new films dealing with the history of science; older films revisited with contemporary analysis; traditional monographs but perhaps with comparative analysis; television shows (e.g. we’re currently seeking a reviewer of the HBO series, *Westworld*); and *museum exhibit reviews are particularly encouraged*. We are open to any fresh ideas that new scholars might suggest to make our publication more dynamic.

By soliciting reviews through the ICOHTEC newsletter, I hope to involve more international scholars, as typically the journal has been confined—for whatever reason—to reviews from people in the United States and the UK. While reviews need to be in English, I hope that we can further bridge divides among scholars from different nations in this journal in the same ways that we do at our conferences.

Reviews are typically between 500 and 800 words, and we set a three-month deadline from time of accepted proposal.

Even if you do not have a proposal in mind, as I don’t know many of your interests, it’d be great if you could let me know your specialties so that I might contact you if a book or topic crosses my desk that might be in your field.

Website: <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/endeavour/>

Examples of Current Reviews: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/aip/01609327>

Thanks for reading and I hope to hear from you.

All best,

Layne

Layne Karafantis, PhD, [KarafantisL@si.edu](mailto:KarafantisL@si.edu)  
Reviews Editor, *Endeavour*  
Curator, Modern Military Aircraft  
Aeronautics Department  
Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum  
600 Independence Avenue SW  
PO BOX 37012, MRC 312, Room 3306  
Washington, DC 20013-7012  
(202) 633-9197

## IV. Scholarships

### **Typewriters and Commerce in Scotland, 1870s–1920s**

AHRC-funded Collaborative PhD Studentship with the University of St Andrews and National Museums Scotland

Deadline for applications **18 April 2017**

The School of History at the University of St Andrews and National Museums Scotland invite applications for a fully-funded AHRC studentship to investigate the development of the consumer market for information and office technologies during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The award will enable the student to pursue doctoral research in a world-class history department, and to gain hands-on museum skills while working in a professional museum team. The student will have full access to the technology collections at both National Museums Scotland and Glasgow Museums.

The student will study the ways typewriters were sold and used in Scotland during the first fifty years of their commercial availability. The project will innovatively combine the use of printed and archival historical sources (such as advertisements, catalogues and trade directories) with active engagement with the outstanding collections of early typewriters (and auxiliary devices) held by National Museums Scotland and Glasgow Museums, both of which have a philosophy of operating their technology collections where possible.

The student will be able to analyse the different features of competing models, and consider how they were represented in marketing material; how certain features became more significant and standardized over time; and how users evaluated and valued the peculiarities of one model over another. In many cases, the student will be able to film the typewriters being used, in order to gain a richer understanding of different features, ease of use, and the aural/haptic ‘sensescapes’ of these information machines.

The studentship is funded by the AHRC via the Scottish Cultural Heritage Consortium (SCHC), and will be supervised by historians of science and technology Dr Aileen Fyfe and Dr Sam Alberti. The start date is 1 October 2017, and the duration is 3 years.

If you have any queries about the project or would like to discuss this opportunity before applying, please contact Dr Aileen Fyfe at [akf@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:akf@st-andrews.ac.uk).

The deadline for applications is **18 April 2017**. For fuller details of the project and the application process, see <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/history/postgrad/typewritersandcommerce.htm>

**5 – 7 September 2017**

**Tensions of Europe Summer School: Borders and Crises in European Past and Present - angles from the history of technology**

Athens and Delphi – Greece

Deadline for application **30 April 2017**.

September 5-7, 2017 the Tensions of Europe Early Career Scholars' Group organises the summer school "Borders and Crises in European Past and Present – angles from the history of technology" in connection to the 8th Tensions of Europe Conference (Athens, 7-10 September 2017).

The summer school aims at introducing PhD's and early career scholars to the Tensions of Europe network as well as to facilitate and encourage networks between young scholars across borders, while building their academic skills. The summer school further relates to the overall conference theme, problematizing how history of technology contributes to the study of border related phenomena. It also aims at revisiting the close connections between borders and technology by focusing at another keyword, which is related to the on-going discussion of Tensions of Europe future research agenda: crises. Following the main objective of the Tensions of Europe Early Career Scholars' Group, the event focuses on network building through workshops, discussions and informal events.

One of the main themes we will discuss is the concept of crisis and how it has been co-produced with narratives about technology and borders in a historic perspective. How is a crisis formulated and perceived in relation to technology? How have different politics of crises looked over time? What links or separates definitions of crises over time? And what role does the memory of past crises play in the definition of and coming to terms with later crises? We also invite you to relate these issues to the conference theme of borders, and discuss themes such as migration, security and violence, political regimes and identities, human rights, economic infrastructure and more. We hope for a fruitful discussion that can inspire and help all participants in their future research.

How to apply

In order to participate, we invite applicants to submit a short bio (no more than one page) and a short text (300-500 words) explaining their interest in the topics of the summer school and how their work would benefit from these discussions.

Proposals should be send by e-mail before **April 30, 2017** to Elena Kochetkova([len.kochetkova@gmail.com](mailto:len.kochetkova@gmail.com)).

## **V. 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:* \_\_\_\_\_ €/ \$

*Your first name and surname:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Email:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Postal address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Country:* \_\_\_\_\_

*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](mailto: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.**