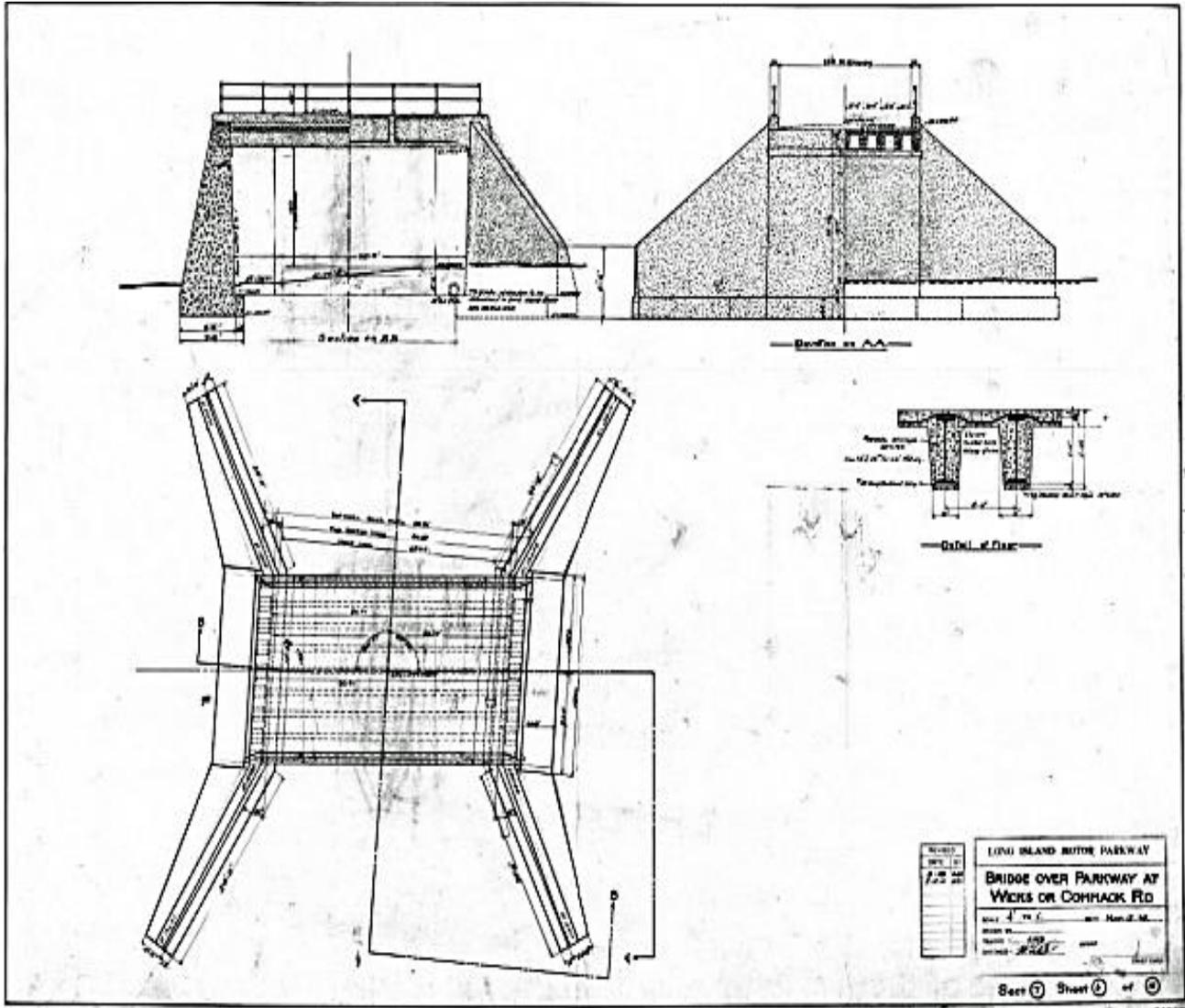


The Long Island Motor Parkway



The *Long Island Motor Parkway* was inaugurated on October 10, 1908 and was the first highway built exclusively for the automobile. It was the privately owned, toll-road, 48-mile speedway on Long Island developed by William K. Vanderbilt Jr. and his business associates. Unique in its concept, this original work of civil engineering featured reinforced concrete, bridges to eliminate grade crossings, and landscaping. Another innovation was the utilization of *banked curves*, allowing the cars to take them at maximum speed of 60 miles per hours. The Long Island Motor Parkway closed on Easter Sunday, April 17, 1938, because the lack of profits followed the construction of toll-free highways by public authorities.

The sound of highways in Australia: <https://youtu.be/l482ToyNkeo>

The sound of highways in Europe: <https://youtu.be/vkOZNJYA7zc>

The Sound of highways in the United States: <https://youtu.be/rMbATaj7l18>

Newsletter of the International Committee for the History of Technology - ICOHTEC

Editor: Francesco Gerali, The University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies.
Norman, OK, United States. Mail to fgerali@ou.edu

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I. ICOHTEC

I.1 THE FIRST DIGITAL ICOHTEC SYMPOSIUM, 15-17 JULY 2020.

Dear Members and Friends of ICOHTEC,

Given the current epidemiological situation, the 47th Annual Meeting of ICOHTEC in Eindhoven (scheduled for July 13-19, 2020) **will not take place physically on location**. This also applies to the connected Summer School. The decision was made after thorough consultation between the ICOHTEC officers and the Local Organizing Committee. However, we are organizing the 2020 symposium in a **digital format**. We expect that due the current lock-down situation and its foreseeable aftermath (many other meetings have been cancelled), ICOHTEC members may be particularly eager to have professional exchanges with their international peers.

Now the first digital ICOHTEC symposium (15-17 July 2020) is taking shape. Please visit the updated conference website: <https://icohtec2020eindhoven.org/>. ICOHTEC will organize one of the first international digital conferences in humanities. In order to arrange the program of the scientific sessions we need to **know definitely**, if (confirmed) participants of our Eindhoven Symposium want to take part in this exiting experimental event.

May we thus ask to answer our pre-registration form on the homepage? It is available on <https://icohtec2020eindhoven.org/> until **30 April**. We want to find a slot of your presentation, which fits in your life in your time zone (that's why we ask). ICOHTEC will offer different formats of presentation beside regular the 20 min talk (+ 10 min discussion). We will inform about these options within the next weeks.

Alternative options:

- to postpone your talk to 2020 (we will accept an updated abstract of the same subject without a second evaluation)
or
- to send in an article to our peer-reviewed journal ICON, directly.

Please find information on ICON: <http://www.icohtec.org/icon/>

Editor: Hermione Giffard, editor@icohtec.org

Thank you to inform about your decision – **the question about 2020 is for information, only.**

Best wishes and stay healthy

Sławomir Łotysz

The President of ICOHTEC

Stefan Poser

Secretary General of ICOHTEC

Chair of the Program Committee

Jan Korsten and Erik van der Vleuten

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee

I.2 ICON

The annual journal of ICOHTEC founded in 1995, *ICON* publishes articles, review essays and book reviews on all aspects and periods of technological history by members and non-members. It encourages research of a transnational character focused on global technologies and seeks to encourage cooperation between scholars across national or political boundaries.

ICON is available via JSTOR, EBSCO as well as ICOHTEC's website through the Members personal page. Articles appearing in *ICON* are included in SCOPUS, America: History and Life, Current abstracts, Francis, Historical abstracts, PubMed, TOC premier, listed in the European Reference Index for the Humanities.

Table of Contents of the Most Recent Issues:

[Volume 24 \(2018/2019\)](#)

[Volume 23 \(2017\)](#)

[Volume 22 \(2016\)](#)

[Volume 21 \(2015\)](#)

[Volume 20.2 \(2014\)](#)

[Volume 20.1 \(2014\)](#)

How to Submit

ICON welcomes submissions of around 6,000-8,000 words, 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.

A typical issue of the journal is about 200 pages long, contains ten to twelve papers and comprises:

- papers based on original research
- specially invited papers on the history of technology and on interdisciplinary connections with other fields of research
- conference reports
- book and journal reviews
- evaluation of museum exhibits
- bibliographical reports

Check our [Guidelines for Contributors](#) and feel free to contact *ICON*'s Editor, Hermione Giffard, for more information. *ICON*'s [Publication Ethics and Publication Malpractice Statement](#) explains the standards of expected ethical behaviour for all parties involved in the act of publishing: the author, the journal editor, the peer reviewer and the publisher. They are based on COPE's Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors. For a free sample issue click [here](#).

ICON Editor in Chief

Hermione Giffard, Ph.D.

Utrecht University

Utrecht

The Netherlands

editor@icohtec.org

ICON Editorial Board

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I.3 OBITUARY: PROF. DR. LIVIU ALEXANDRU SOFONEA, 1932-2020.

Professor Liviu Sofonea is no longer among us.

Professor Liviu Alexandru Sofonea, a prominent personality of the Brasovian physicists, member of the Department of Physics of the Transilvania University of Brasov, died at the age of 87.

Professor Liviu Sofonea was born on April 17, 1932. He graduated from the Faculty of Physics-Mathematics of the University of Bucharest in 1955 and then obtained PhD in Theoretical Physics of the Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca (1962), and PhD in the History of Science and Technique of the University of Bucharest (1986). In 1998 he was awarded with title of Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Petroşani.

An erudite and dynamic personality, professor Liviu Sofonea developed numerous studies and researches in theoretical physics (relativity theory, cosmology, mechanology), philosophy of science (epistemology, modal logic), history of science and technique, which have been published in PhD theses, books and many articles.

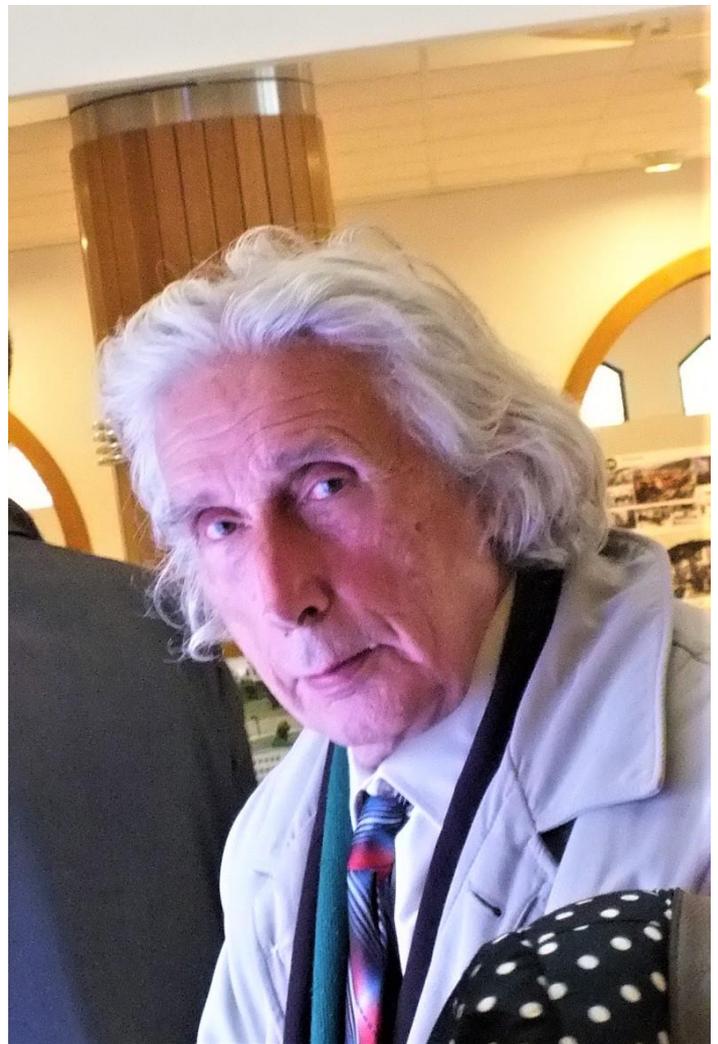
PhD theses:

-Liviu Alexandru Sofonea, *Contributions to the study of invariant mechanics*. Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, 1972.

-Liviu Alexandru Sofonea, *Contributions to the history of the idea of infinity in the thinking of modern physics*, University of Bucharest, 1986.

Books (selection):

-L.A. Sofonea, *Principles of Invariance in the Theory of Motion* (in Romanian), Editura Academiei, Bucureşti, 1971.



- L.A. Sofonea, *Representatives Geometries and Physical Theories* (in Romanian), Editura Dacia, Cluj-Napoca, 1981.
- L.A. Sofonea, *Conceptual History of Physics. Applications of the Historical-Epistemological Models* (In Romanian), University of Braşov, Vol. I-II, 1981, V. III-IV, 1985.
- L.A. Sofonea, *Mechanics of Fluids* (in Romanian), University of Brasov, 1983.
- L.A. Sofonea, *Geometrical Structures and Physical Theories* (in Romanian), Editura Dacia, Cluj-Napoca, 1986.
- S. Hadgia, L.A. Sofonea, I. Stoicoiu), *Physics of Some Special Fluids* (in Romanian), Editura Focus, 2003.
- L.A. Sofonea, E. Helerea, *Hermeneutica Historiae et Philosophiae Scientiae et Technicae* (editors), Transilvania University of Braşov Printed House, Vol I - 2003, Vol II – 2005, Vol. III – 2020.

Profesor Liviu Alexandru Sofonea was distinguished by a remarkable didactic and scientific activity, being chosen as a member of numerous scientific and cultural forums, as follows: the Romanian Society of Physics, the Society of Mathematical Sciences from Romania, General Association of Engineers from Romania, Association of Installing Engineers from Romania, The Committee on History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (CRIFST) of the Romanian Academy International Committee for History of Technology (ICOHTEC), Spanish Society for the History of Science and Technology (SEHCYT), Newcomen Society, Astronomical Society of India, Central European Academy for Sciences and Arts. He was also a founding member of the Negru-Vodă Cultural Foundation in Făgăraş and of the Association of Science and Technology - Braşov.

Besides being a remarkable scientist, Professor Liviu Alexandru Sofonea was a friendly, generous person, who inspired us in many actions at ICOHTEC international meetings.

Eternal memory for him!

Elena Helerea,
[Transilvania University of Brasov](https://www.transilvania.ro/)
 Dept. of Applied Physics and Electrical Engineering



II. CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Vision Loss through Many Lenses: Insights from Myth, Media, Music, Medicine & More

While vision loss directly concerns medical and mental health professions, this theme also attracts the attention of artists and scholars from many disciplines. This collection falls under the rubric of "medical humanities" and includes essays on vision loss or blindness in visual arts, literature, music, comics, film, myth, history, religion, philosophy, sociology and more--but it does not include medical or mental health issues per se. Some topics are already accounted for but open topics include memoirs by persons who lost their vision; masculinity in blind samurai warrior series; blindness as a metaphor for color-blindness in Civil Rights era films; music by and about blind persons; why groups such as Blind Boys of Alabama proliferated in Southern U.S.A.; disability debates invoked by Oliver Sack's *Island of the Colorblind*; dance by or about persons w/ visual loss; portrayals of vision-impaired females in film; poetry by or about vision-impaired persons; Catholic/Protestant/Hindu/Muslim/Jewish attitudes toward vision loss; healing shrines and patron

saints and miracle cures for vision loss; East Asian attitudes toward vision loss; philosophical debates about blindness and cognition; etc. We are open to other innovation ideas. If you are uncertain if your topic is still available, pl send a short 1-2 sentence query plus a short bio. Otherwise, please send a short precis of 200-400 words along with a short bio &/or resume. Abstracts due 12-15-19. Papers of 3,000-4,000 words (w/ 5-15 citations) in University Chicago style due **June 1, 2020** (first draft). Final drafts due August 30, 2020. Remuneration includes 1 book/essay. This essay collection is already in contract with a respected academic publisher.

Contact Info: drsharonpackermd@gmail.com, add VISION LOSS through MANY LENSES in subject.

III. JOBS, POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS, RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRADUATE SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

United States

Drexel University - The Department of History of Drexel University announces a one-year position at the rank of visiting assistant professor (non-tenure track)

http://www.h-net.org/jobs/job_display.php?id=60035

Max Planck Institute for the History of Science - Working Group and Visiting Scholarships - Ability and Authority in East Asia/China 1200-1450

http://www.h-net.org/jobs/job_display.php?id=60038

IV. Join ICOHTEC

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: 2017 2018 2019 2020

I submit the total amount: _____ euro (or USD)

Your first name and surname: _____

Email: _____

Postal address: _____

Country: _____

Tick the method of your payment:

- 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 (members in Germany take

Commerzbank Bochum BLZ 43040036, Nr. 390259000).

- 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 Timo Myllyntaus, ICOHTEC Treasurer at timmyl@utu.fi or, send a hardcopy by regular mail to Timo Myllyntaus, Turku School of Economics, Rehtorinpellonkatu 3 Room 313, 20 500 Turku, Finland. Your filled form will facilitate sending ICONs and allocating access privileges.