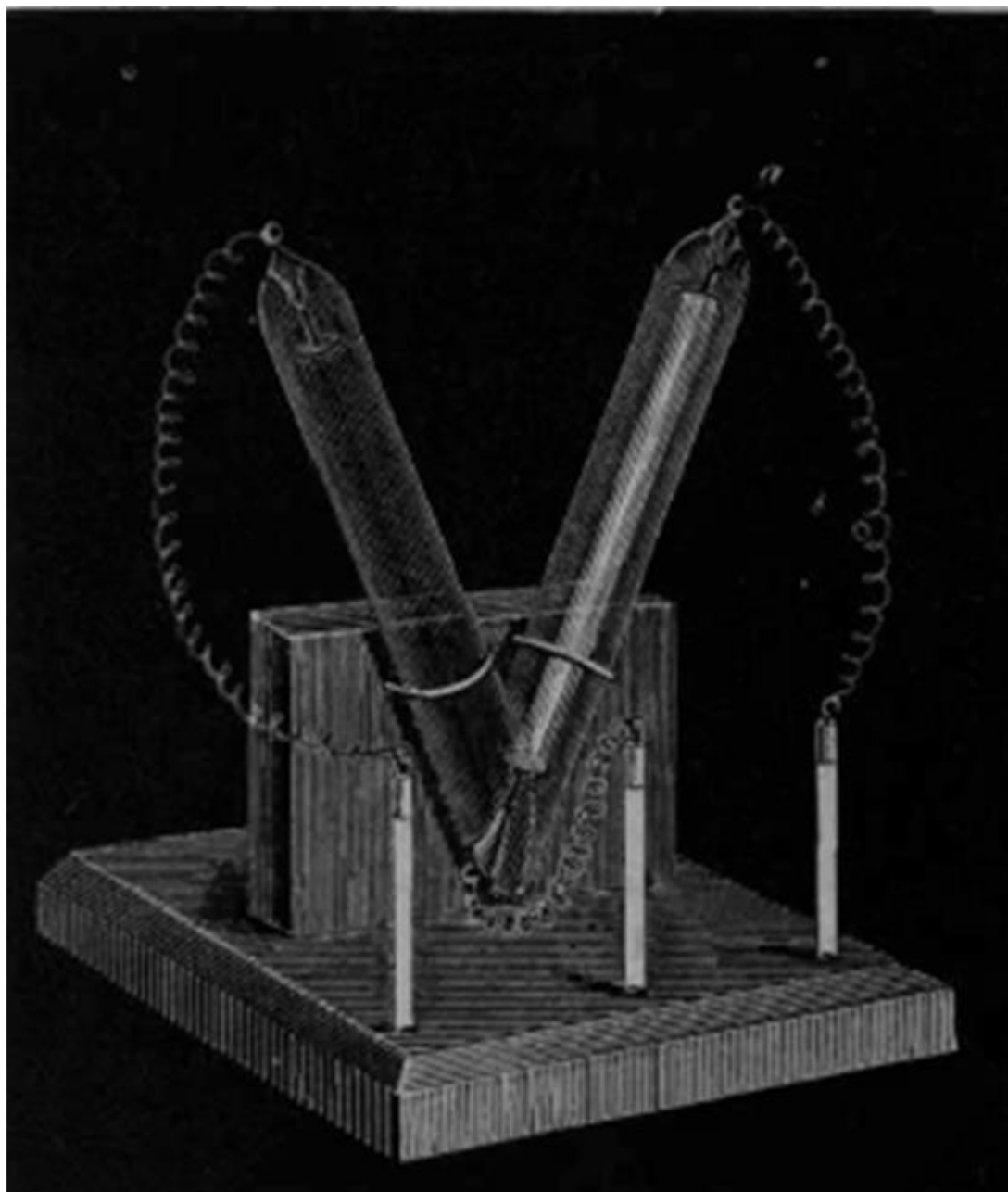


The 4th State of the Matter



On radiant matter

A lecture delivered to the British Association for the Advancement of Science, at Sheffield, Friday, August 22, 1879

by Crookes, William Sir

London: Printed by H. J. Davey, Boy Court, Ludgate Hill, E.G. 1879

The sound of the 4th state of the matter: <https://youtu.be/EIXMDNir6xY>

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

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I. ICOHTEC	P.2
I.1 DIGITAL ICOHTEC SYMPOSIUM, 15-17 JULY 2020: ATTENDEE REGISTRATION OPEN	P.2
I.2 THE MAURICE DAUMAS PRIZE	P.3
I.3 <i>ICON</i>	P.7
I.4 OBITUARY: BRENDA JUNE BUCHANAN	P.8
II. EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES: <i>ILLINOIS ENERGYPROF</i>	P.9
III. BOOK PRESENTATION: <i>ANDROIDEN ALS SPIE(GE)L DER AUFKLÄRUNG</i>	P.9
IV. NEW EDITORIAL INITIATIVES: WHY THE SCIENCES OF THE ANCIENT WORLD MATTER	P.9
V. OPEN SOURCES	P.10
VI. DIGITAL WORKSHOPS	P.12
VII. CALLS FOR MANUSCRIPTS	P.15
VIII. CALLS FOR PAPERS	P.19
IX. JOBS, POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS, AND RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS	P.20
X. ERRATA CORRIGE CONGRESS REPORT: PLASTICS HERITAGE CONGRESS: HISTORY, LIMITS AND POSSIBILITIES	P.22
XI. JOIN ICOHTEC	P.23

I. ICOHTEC

I.1 DIGITAL ICOHTEC SYMPOSIUM, 15-17 JULY 2020: ATTENDEE REGISTRATION OPEN

If you are interested to visit ICOHTEC digital as attendee (without giving a paper), the registration form is open @ <https://icohtec2020eindhoven.org/registration/> until the beginning of the conference. Regular fee for attendees is **25 Euro**. ICOHTEC members attending our digital symposium as attendee (also entitled to join the Annual General Assembly) will pay the **10 Euro** reduced fee.

For the program overview: <https://icohtec2020eindhoven.org/program-2/>;
Symposia, sessions, topics and speakers are available here: <https://icohtec2020eindhoven.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-ICOHTEC-sessions-version-22-June-2020.pdf>.
In next few days will be published presentations and symposia full abstracts.

Since this is an experimental symposium, we want to offer different formats of presentation, including options for pre-circulation or uploading additional information about your paper before the symposium. Pre-recorded papers are possible as well as live presentations (recommended). Concerning the sessions, we offer the normal slots of 90 minutes for 3 or 4 lectures - 20 min presentation + 10 min discussion in case of 3 panelists; 15 min presentation + 10 min discussion in case of 4 panelists. You are welcome to give shorter papers and to extend the discussion time, but we recommend papers of at least 10-minute length. For technical questions please contact our local organizers by sht@tue.nl; for content-related questions please contact me by poser@hsu-hh.de.

Best wishes
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 THE MAURICE DAUMAS PRIZE

REPORT BY THE 2020 COMMITTEE FOR THE MAURICE DAUMAS PRIZE

We received **19 applications**, 12 in English, 6 in French and 1 in German from **11 countries**, as the following table shows:

Author Names	Paper Title	Language	Country	Institution
1. Andreas Möllenkamp	The Digitalization of Musical Instruments and Musical Practice	English	Germany	University of Hamburg
2. Benjamin Bothereau	Adaptations et résistances au mode d'éclairage public parisien : les traductions différenciées de Barcelone et Madrid	French	France	Centre de Recherches Historiques (CRH Paris)
3. Catherine Herr-Laporte	Rien ne sert de courir ; il faut partir à point » : temps et mobilité dans un long xviiiè siècle	French	France	University of Neuchâtel
4. Claas Kirchhelle	The Forgotten Typers: The Rise And Fall Of Weimar Bacteriophage-Typing (1921-1935)	English	Ireland	University College Dublin
5. Cyril Lacheze	Pour une analyse systémique de la technique : exemple de la production de terre cuite architecturale	French	France	Pantheon-Sorbonne University
6. Hugo Pereira	The Ambaca railway in Angola: history of a failed public-private partnership (1885-1914 and briefly onwards	English	Portugal	CIUHCT –Faculty of Science and Technology, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa
7. Jenny Bulstrode	Riotous assemblage and the materials of regulation	English	UK	University of Cambridge
8. Juan M. Cano Sanchiz	Instruments of statecraft: Humphrey Cole, Elizabethan economic policy and the rise of practical mathematics	English	China	University of Science and Technology Beijing (China)
9. Juan M. Durán	A Formal Framework for Computer Simulations: Surveying the Historical Record and Finding Their Philosophical Roots	English	The Netherlands	Delft University of Technology

10. Luke Keogh	The Wardian Case: Environmental Histories of a Box for Moving Plants	English	Australia	Deakin University, Melbourne
11. M Luísa Sousa	"The "Script" of a New Urban Layout: Mobility, Environment, and Embellishment in Lisbon's Streets (1850–1910)"	English	Portugal	CIUHCT –Faculty of Science and Technology, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa
12. Marion Weckerle	Facture instrumentale et gestes : éléments pour la restitution historiquement informée du jeu de la clarinette en musique ancienne	French	France	Université de Nantes
13. Matteo Paolieri	Paolo Chini: The Chemical Architect of Metal Carbonyl Clusters	English	Italy	University of Florence
14. Quintino Lopes & Elisabete Pereira	Armando de Lacerda and Experimental Phonetics in the Inter-war Period: Scientific Innovation and Circulation between Portugal, Germany and Harvard	English	Portugal	Universidade de Évora
15. Sabrina Kirschner	Grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit im urbanen (Ab-) Wassersektor: Entwicklungspolitische Lösungsansätze für die (Ab-) Wasserprobleme São Paulos in den 1950er bis 1970er Jahren	German	Germany	-
16. Stephanie Ricker Schulte	United States Digital Service: How “Obama’s Startup” Harnesses Disruption and Productive Failure to Reboot Government	English	USA	University of Arkansas
17. Sylvain Roche	Transformer les vagues en énergie: utopie ou réalité ?	French	France	Université de Bordeaux
18. Wilmer Leal	Exploration of the chemical space and its three historical regimes	English	Germany	University of Leipzig
19. Yohann Guffroy	La mécanologie : une lignée technologique francophone ?	French	Switzerland	École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne

The Maurice Daumas Prize Committee signaled a significant number of papers as contributors to originality, relevance of the content, interesting figures, clear writing, relevant conclusions and contribution for the discipline. The panel pointed out many papers well researched, structured and written, richly argued, good theoretical framework based on an impressive corpus of sources and published in respected journals. Some of them represent original and consistent research, based on the range of various materials and evidence. From the general perspective the papers are good enough to be considered, and their contribution for the History of Technology is estimated as high.

The range of topics presented focuses on and covers several areas such as: transnational technological networks; relationship between government and private enterprise, early modern history; history, current events and future of wave energy; the emergence of the notion of timetable and delay during a long 18th century in France, Switzerland and England, i.e. before the advent of the railways; the urban land market, transport networks, drinking water supply or waste water disposal; the study of the musical instruments industry in the course of digitalization; the early history of phage-typing and its meaning for bacteriological diagnosis in Germany; archeological methods in the history of transportation; approach to the analysis of the chemical spaces using mathematical tools.

This year (2020), the Committee has decided to award an **honorarium/diploma** prize, besides the **ICOHTEC Maurice Daumas Article Prize 2020**, to the papers in second and third positions. Thus, the **ICOHTEC Maurice Daumas Article Prize 2020 (the twentieth)** will be awarded to: **Luke Keogh**, Senior Curator at the National Wool Museum in Geelong, Australia, for his paper “The Wardian Case: Environmental Histories of a Box for Moving Plants” published in 2019 in *Environment and History*, 25, 219-244.

Luke Keogh’s article is a very interesting and engaging analysis of the role of artifacts, in particular the Wardian case, in making humans into a force of botanic change and global migration. Through a complex analysis of a seemingly simple artifact and the historiography around it, the author identifies an unsuspected driver of world history in the global age. The article provides a good attempt to put a story of the Wardian box into the discourse on mobility and Anthropocene. It’s original and well written. At a largest scope, the colonial, economic, scientific and the technical issues are smartly defined. Methodologies and approaches from the history of technology heavily influenced the Wardian case project. The paper was inspired by the “use-based history” of both Ruth Oldenziel and Mikael Hard, *Consumers, Tinkerers and Rebels: The People Who Shaped Europe* (Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2013) and also David Edgerton, *The Shock of the Old: Technology and Global History Since 1900* (London: Profile, 2006). Although Ward’s story is certainly one of “innovation” by taking a longer and global view the story of the Wardian case is also one of use and practice.

The 2nd and 3rd Prizes (**Honorarium**) will be awarded to Marion Weckerle and Jenny Bulstrode, respectively.

Marion Weckerle is a PhD candidate in History of technology at the Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University. **Marion Weckerle’s** paper “Facture instrumentale et gestes : éléments pour la restitution historiquement informée du jeu de la clarinette en musique ancienne”, published in 2019 in *Cahiers François Viète*, Série III – N° 6 , 109-131, is a highly original contribution to three fields: the history of technology, the history of music, and historical informed interpretation. The novelty lies precisely in the interdisciplinary intersection between these three fields, which could become a

landmark for further collaborations between them. Particularly bold is the aim at improving current practice in musical interpretation employing up-to-date conceptual tools in the history of technology, which enable the author to see the historical archives and artifacts with the eyes of the historian of technology, the ears of the historian of music, and the hands and lungs of the clarinet interpreter. Weckerle does a very convincing and systematic analysis of its sources.

Jenny Bulstrode is a [Junior Research Fellow at Jesus College, University of Cambridge](#), carrying out postdoctoral research on climate change in the [Department of History and Philosophy of Science, HPS](#), with a particular focus on globalisation and fossil capital. Jenny Bulstrode’s paper “Riotous assemblage and the materials of regulation”, published in 2018 in the *Journal History of Science*, 56 (3) 278–313, is impressively researched, a profound study of the glass and its role in the wide context of standards, fiscal policy, and market regulations. The author sets intriguing research questions and welcomes to follow the (hi)story of the artifacts supporting it with various visual materials and data. The article is exemplary of Jenny’s interest in using materials and processes to connect detailed microhistories with global consequences and universal claims in the study of [art, industry, and science](#).

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CIUHCT-FCUL, 11th June 2020

Maria Elvira Callapez

I.3 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 \(2014\)](#)

Past issues will be available soon.

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](#).

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Artemis Yagou

I.4 OBITUARY: BRENDA JUNE BUCHANAN

ICOHTECH's beloved Brenda June Buchanan passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at her home on 14 April 2020. She was a former student of Homerton College, Cambridge, and took her doctorate at the University of London. Brenda was a sublime teacher and researcher, and a distinguished scholar of the history of gunpowder. She made a great contribution to the civic life of Bath and touched many lives and will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

There are many good deeds that exemplify Brenda's importance and involvement in ICOHTECH. Many of us who knew her could write of her long good experience, and feel the pain of her departure. She was gentle but assertive, witty and highly intelligent, with a well-controlled temperament and good nature. Brenda thus knew how to bring scholars together, especially on gunpowder, and participants met regularly in ICOHTECH's symposia from 1994 onwards. The 1994 symposium was hosted in the University of Bath, the home university of Brenda and her husband, our ex-President Angus Buchanan whom we deeply console. A good outcome from Bath was a collection of papers, edited by Brenda and published in Bath. The second edited collection by Brenda, also in a form of a book, was published in 2006 by Ashgate. She worked to make gunpowder understandable in its worldwide historical context and her publications included articles from all continents. In recent years she was involved remotely in organizing gunpowder studies. In the gunpowder sessions, Brenda was sometimes mentioned as the "Queen of Gunpowder". Indeed, she was, serving as the center pole and organizer of the yearly sessions. At one time she spoke about a distant relation to the royal family, which further explained her knightly behavior. Brenda was actually involved at first with economic history. As the economic development in her surroundings were linked with gun powder and slave trade, she was attracted to the making and nature of the material. Her studies took her to India and other places where raw materials were being made or final manufacturing done. Some later works dealt with electronic microscope studies of these raw materials as charcoal. She took pride in her offspring, one of which studied in Oxford, if remembering well.



Yoel Bergman

ICOHTECH Vice President

II. EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES: ILLINOIS ENERGYPROF

In this issues, ICOHTEC NWSL features the YouTube Channell [Illinois EnergyProf](#) of Abel Bliss Professor of Engineering David Ruzic, Ph.D., Department of Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Prof. Rusic is Director of the [Center for Plasma-Material Interactions](#), a laboratory devoted to the study of particle-surface interactions relevant to fusion power and materials processing systems through a combination of computational and experimental means.

[Illinois EnergyProf](#) is an original and well done educational tool that covers energy thematics at 360°. Students and scholars in the humanities interested to broaden their knowledge on physics, engineering, economics of atomic energy, plasma, fossils, renewable, ect., will find plenty of rich and useful information in this resource.

III. BOOK PRESENTATION

Caetano da Rosa, Catarina: *Androiden als Spie(ge)l der Aufklärung*. Avinus Verlag, Hamburg 2020

This book deals with the history of androids in the Age of Enlightenment. These devices in human shape are represented as most significant inventions of their time. They did not only fascinate, move and amuse the public, but also challenged people's capacity for self-knowledge. The chapters of this book are devoted to Philosophy, Technique and Literature. They give new insights in discourses and perceptions of Technology.



IV. NEW EDITORIAL INITIATIVES: WHY THE SCIENCES OF THE ANCIENT WORLD MATTER

We have the pleasure to inform you that we have launched a new book series “[Why the Sciences of the Ancient World Matter](#)”, which is published by Springer (<https://www.springer.com/series/15657>). The following four titles have already been published:

- [Pieces and Parts in Scientific Texts](#). Editors: Florence Bretelle-Establet and Stéphane Schmitt (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-78467-0>)
- [Scholars and Scholarship in Late Babylonian Uruk](#). Editors: Christine Proust and John Steele (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-04176-2>)

- [Monographs in Tang Official Historiography](#) Perspectives from the Technical Treatises of the History of Sui (Sui shu). Editors: Daniel Patrick Morgan and Damien Chaussende, with the collaboration of Karine Chemla (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-18038-6>)
- [The Making of a Scribe](#), Errors, Mistakes and Rounding Numbers in the Old Babylonian Kingdom of Larsa. Author: Robert Middeke-Conlin (<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030359508>)

Forthcoming:

- Mathematics, Administrative and Economic Activities in Ancient Worlds. Editors : Cécile Michel and Karine Chemla

Should you wish to submit a project, or even a manuscript, to this collection, you are welcome to get in touch with any of us, or, alternatively, to download and fill up a form from the webpage of the book series.

Sincerely yours,

Karine Chemla, Agathe Keller et Christine Proust, editors of the series

V. OPEN SOURCES

[Technology's Stories: Aesthetics and Electricity](#)

Aesthetics and Electricity

www.technologystories.org.

The aestheticization of electrical technologies was not a secondary afterthought in the history of electrification, but a major factor in the very shaping of the modern electrified world. A sensitivity to aesthetics in design was a necessary consideration to manage collective hopes and fears about an electrified future. Design schemes for electrical technologies were mediated through class, status, gender, spatial, national or religious values and identities linked to modes of consumption. This issue highlights how electricity was historically melded into culturally agreeable forms.

Daniel Pérez Zapico: [Aesthetics and the Political Appropriation of the Electric Light](#)

Michael Kay: ["A Mighty Cobweb": Electricity, Aesthetics and the Urban Public Space](#)

Karen Sayer: [Light 'Pollution': The Aesthetics of Modernity Vs Pastoral in Britain](#)

Ying Jia Tan: [Dreamscapes of Accelerated Development: Uses and Abuses of Artist Impressions in John L. Savage's Yangtze Gorges Proposal, 1944-1946](#)

Phil Judkins: [Dreams and Visions: The Development of Military Radar Iconography and User Reaction, 1935-45](#)

Abigail Harrison Moore: [Electric Lighting: The Housewife's Moral Challenge](#)

Technology's Stories offers innovative, sharp, and compelling storytelling about technology in society, past and present. It aims to engage scholars, students, and the interested general public with the usable past - with stories that can help us make sense of contemporary technological challenges and aspirations. Pieces are strong on content and light on academic jargon, making them especially suitable for undergraduates.

Interested in putting together an issue for Technology's Stories? Or publishing a standalone essay? Please contact us at techstories@techculture.org. We invite contributions from across the spectrum, from graduate students to senior scholars.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Moon, Editor, Technology's Stories

Con Diaz, Associate Editor, Technology's Stories

techstories@techculture.org

THEORIA: An International Journal for Theory, History and Foundations of Science

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<https://www.ehu.eus/ojs/index.php/THEORIA/issue/view/1809>

Vol 35, No 2 (2020) Table of Contents:

The Rehabilitation of Deductive Reasoning

Thomas Bartelborth

Perception as a propositional attitude

Daniel Kalpokas

How to be a realist about Minkowski spacetime without believing in magical explanations

Adan Sus

Dying to live. Cell death as a regulatory process

María Belén Campero, Cristián Favre, Cristian Saborido

Does impartial reasoning matter in economic decisions? An experimental result about distributive (un)fairness in a production context

Laura Marcon, Pedro Francés-Gómez, Marco Faillo

On Archimedes' statics

Mario Bacelar Valente

BOOK REVIEWS

Josep L. Barona. 2019. *Health Policies in Interwar Europe. A Transnational Perspective*

Patrick Zylberman

VI. DIGITAL WORKSHOPS

Understanding social identities, cultural imaginaries and political agendas in the history of electricity and electrification

Electrical History Research Group

Centre for the History and Philosophy of Science 24th September 2020

The **Electrical History Research Group** (CHPS - University of Leeds) announces its **first online research workshop**. Established in 2018 by a group of researchers at the University of Leeds and Leeds Trinity University with interests in histories of electricity in varied historical contexts, the Electrical History Research Group hosts monthly virtual reading groups, discussing new and established scholarship on electrical histories. We intend to reach out to and include scholars from around the world, and expand our activities through discussions, blog posts, and interviews.

Registration to the workshop is now open. Please note that registration will be required to participate. Please express your interest or send your queries to D.Zapico@leeds.ac.uk.

The link to the online workshop and further details will be made online at <https://electricalhistoryresearch.wordpress.com/>

Climate change and resource depletion are prompting a re-assessment of modern forms of energy usage, including assumptions about the sustainability of high-energy use and unlimited growth (Smil, 2003 and 2017). In that context, historians are encouraged to re-evaluate the larger implications, constraints and consequences of energy in human society and history (Nye, 1999; Crosby, 2006). Since energy transition to a more sustainable way of living cannot be reduced to the market or purely technological solutions, we need an urgent interdisciplinary conversation to understand the social, cultural and institutional forces inscribed in energy practices and systems (Abram, 2019).

Therefore, the challenges of the pending energy transitions of the 21st century presents an opportunity for social scientists to provide a more reflective picture on the complex relationship between energy and society, as well as the forms of interpreting, managing and imaging energies and our future with them. This includes take into consideration disparate and often conflicting elements such as technologies, infrastructures, energy resources, government regulations, business practices, but also consumers choices, cultures of consumption, societal perceptions and other public controversies that could shape public acceptance of systems of energy production. This way, energies emerged as sites of controversy and social experimentation (Mazur, 2013).

Within that frame, historians can provide a more detailed and critical understanding of past and present energy societies and its capacities of transition (Möllers and Zachmann, 2012). This should include an integrative expertise based on deep knowledge of how energy systems emerged historically, the particularities of distinct energy histories on the regional or the national level, energy consumption practices as the outcome of societal contracts and cultural traditions, the uneven distribution of energies benefits and costs throughout history -prices, environment, health-, the variety of energy choices available and the interrelation between new and old forms of energy (Sandwell, 2016).

As the *Electrical History Research Group* (CHPS – University of Leeds) we would like to cooperate with this endeavour through an interdisciplinary dialogue with other scholars inside and outside the University of Leeds by means of a one-day workshop focused on the historical development of electricity and electrification.

Throughout the meetings of our recently formed research group, we have discussed the practices and ideas embedded in electrification. From the second half of the nineteenth century (and across many countries), different narratives shaped different understandings of electricity's agency as an autonomous force able to trigger broad social, cultural and even political change. Hence, electrical technologies have been incorporated within the triumphalist rhetoric of a Western-dominated modernity. This deterministic approach to the history of electricity has permeated the way in which different audiences -historians included-, have represented the sociocultural and historical encounters with electricity and the configuration of energy choices through history.

Within this frame, the narrative of electrification, still deeply influenced by T.P. Hughes's *Networks of power* (1983), usually portrays a top-down inevitable process with an emphasis on the agency of engineers, entrepreneurial circles or political and institutional authorities. Recent studies, however, have pointed out how the advent of an 'electrical modernity' was not an unavoidable but rather a contested process, since different individuals and groups imagined and employed electricity from within their social identities and wider political, ideological and cultural frameworks (Kline, 2003; Gooday, 2008; Vermeir, 2016; Morus, 2016; Harrison-Moore and Gooday, 2016; Brassley, Burchardt and Sayer, 2016). Our reflections especially build upon Graeme Gooday's work *Domesticating Electricity* (2008), which explores the problematic advent of electric lightning in Victorian homes. This work points out to the need of crossing classic interpretations of electrification with other socio-cultural concerns such as gender or class issues to form the most socially inclusive and culturally differentiated account of its heterogeneity.

Therefore, with this workshop we would like to explore approaches which help to provide a more complete picture of how historical choices around electrical technologies were conformed and evolved. This includes taking into consideration consumers sensibilities and the active role of users, but also the recognition of the diverse groups and actors participating in the process and their distinct -even discordant- social, gender, ethnic or spatial identities. Our account would consider also political issues such as nationalism, colonialism, the engagements with different types of modernity and wider socio-technical dreams and imaginaries. In this way, we argue that the history of electricity and electrification should be understood as a history of successive adaptations to specific historical, social or national scenarios where the different electrical languages were appropriated, and the distinct meanings of electricity were articulated.

Some of the questions that we would like to address are:

- What is still useful about the system-centred approach to the history of electrification and what new directions do we need?
- What benefits are there instead of talking about different even divergent- 'electrical cultures'?
- How might we characterize these cultures?
- How far have such cultures shaped energy-choices through history?
- How the historiography of electricity could benefit from the social sciences, especially from the social studies of energies and other correlated fields?

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- This is the programme for the workshop. All times given are for the UK (BST).

Registration (9–10 am)

Keynote Speaker: Prof Graeme Gooday (University of Leeds) (10 – 11am) *Revisiting Domesticating Electricity*

Coffee Break (11–11.30 am)

Panel 1: Social identities and choices in the histories of electricity and electrification (11.30 am – 1 pm)

Speakers

- Abigail Harrison-Moore (University of Leeds) *Consumer Decisions: Professional Women's Advice on Energy Transitions, 1870-1890'*

- Karen Sayer (Leeds Trinity) *Cultures of Sustainability and Growth: electricity as a power for good in the rhetorics of 20th food and farming*
- Animesh Chatterjee (Leeds Trinity / University of Leeds) *The Social Life of Electricity in Colonial Calcutta*

Lunch break (1 – 2pm)

Panel 2. How the historiography of electricity could benefit from the social sciences? (2 – 3.30pm)

Speakers

- Simone Abram (Durham Energy Institute; Durham University). *Histories of energy futures*
- Ronald Bolton (Energy & Society Network; University of Edinburgh) *The political origins of electricity markets in Europe*
- Léonard Laborie (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, UMR SIRICE) *From the history of electricity to the history of energy: why and how creating the Journal of Energy History*

Coffee Break (3.30 – 4pm)

Panel 3: Challenging the Modernity framework: adaptation and national cultures of electricity (4 – 5.30pm)

Speakers

- Clarence Hatton-Proulx (Centre Interuniversitaire de Recherche sur la Science et la Technologie, Université du Québec à Montréal) *“Under your Feet, a Wonderful System”: Burying Montréal's Electricity Distribution Network, 1890-1910*
- Michael Kay (University of Leeds) *The electrification of the English country house*
- Paul Coleman (University of Leeds) *The role of the military in the development of the British National Grid*
- Daniel Pérez Zapico (University of Leeds): *The Languages of Electrical Modernity in Spain: Regeneration and National (Re)construction after the 1898's Disaster*

VII. CALLS FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Building Transport History Ontologies

The current Covid-19 pandemic is bringing to the foreground all the aspects related to mobility and movement, and naturally, in the making of the global lockdown, its opposite: immobility. The spread of the coronavirus and its worldwide impact is strongly linked to the movement of humans, virus and objects. The only possible action available, so far, has been to lessen or even stop mobility, so as to reduce the transmission of the virus. The lockdown carried out around the globe has shown, to an unprecedented extent, the role played by transport (as well as by the lack of it) to our economy, society and life. The lockdown, as an “extraordinary” situation, has also displayed, in an apparently counter-evident way, how mobility has been unevenly distributed and used in “normal” times. These new and old questions arrived at the moment the field of transport history is facing remarkable changes, as shown by The Journal of Transport History’s production in the past three years. The JTH has moved several steps in the direction of research diversity. Although the rate of submissions from the “North- Atlantic” area represents about 60 per cent of the total, work on

Latin America, Asia and Africa is growing quickly. Over this time, JTH received submissions from around 30 different countries. It is a rough – but still significant – indicator of the geographical variety of the authorship. The focus of many papers and, even more importantly, of the past and upcoming special issues (including the one presented in 2020)¹ are focusing on areas beyond the North Atlantic. In other words, geographical variety is growing, both in the authorship and in the research foci. We can also claim a stronger gender balance, which is well reflected in the composition of the JTH Editorial board, in the guest editorship of special issues (where it reaches 50%), and, to a lesser extent, to the authorship (still 75% are males). Finally, early-career scholars seem to be interested by transport history, as witnessed by the growth in submissions for the annual John Scholes Prize. We are pleased by these outcomes, and we aim to continue to publish excellent, stimulating scholarship. We are a journal offering the readership the latest developments in the field, with an open mind. While building on what we have done and what we are doing, the transport history field is still in need of a debate addressing the big, fundamental question: the theorization of what transport is and has been, with the related subset of questions: what to investigate and who are the actors; the relationship between mobility and immobility; what movement is, and so on. Three years ago, the JTH made a call for a new ontology for transport history². We argued how, in past decades, transport history changed its foci, approaches and research areas, opening up new investigation avenues and taking advantage of the work done in the fields of cultural, global, urban history, as well as history of technology and business studies. However, we are still missing an ontology of transport history, that is, (i) why transport and mobility discourses “are irreducible to other social or technological processes”³ and (ii) what are its own ontological characteristics?

The current mobility and immobility discussion is naturally influencing transport history too. Beyond similarities to past zoonoses (including 10-thousand-year-old measles), the current events are calling for a better historical appraisal of mobility and immobility, questioning larger concepts related to movement: circulation (of bodies, virus, food, etc.), globalization, human and non-human exchanges, governance, social reproduction; pertinent concepts suddenly at the centre of the stage, not only for some scholars but also entering the social and political agenda for policymakers and the public.

In other words, Covid-19 is shaking the status quo and forcing new questions about many concepts we use, urging us to open a theoretical discussion about transport history, its background and its epistemological foundations. This is not new: in past years, as an Editorial Board, we have debated the need for a theoretical framework and even to prepare – so far unpublished – a handbook for transport history, which should act as a reference to develop a paradigm for the field (and eventually to criticize it, following Kuhn’s most classical description of scientific knowledge). In this vein, The Journal of Transport History is launching this Call for Papers devoted to further developing the ontology of Transport History. The papers can have any format or length (between 2 and 8 thousand words) and take on innovative analytical approaches. As a non-binding suggestion, we consider here two possible main avenues of research. The first one should be able to better elaborate some paradigmatic concepts for transport history and eventually frame these

¹ Special issue on “Global Histories of Transportation Networks”, The Journal of Transport History 41:1 (2020).

² Massimo Moraglio, “Seeking a (new) ontology for transport history”, The Journal of Transport History 38:1 (2018), 3–10.

³ Colin Divall, “Mobilities and Transport History”, in Peter Adey et al. (eds.), The Routledge Handbook of Mobilities (London and New York: Routledge, 2013), 36–44, here 37.

ideas in the wider historical and theoretical debate. The goal is to gauge transport history with other subfields, including, but not limited to, urban history, global history and history of technology. In addition, we encourage exploring relations between transport history and more theory-driven fields such as urban theory, STS, political geography, or organizational studies, to name a few. This should lead to a more active and open discussion, questioning the values and limits of the current paradigms present in other historical disciplines. The second avenue of research should critically address the role, relevance (and limits) of the mobility turn. Transport history must play a relevant role in questioning how history can add to the discussion around the mobility turn, but also addressing the ever-present risk of a-chronological mobility investigations, which investigate the present patterns and form of movements as unprecedented and undoubtedly novel. History has the full potential to avoid “chronocentrism” and to display both the recurrences and novelties of present patterns. The latter point is even more important considering the magnitude of the mobility/immobility patterns triggered by Covid-19. The papers collected for this CfP, which will be published in the JTH, will eventually – with the authors’ agreement – be used as the foundation for a future Handbook of Transport History, which may take the form of a print volume or an on-line depository.

Special issue Guest Editors: Massimo Moraglio, Michael Bess, Greet De Block, Mike Esbester, Valentina Fava, Dhan Zunino Singh Abstracts are welcome until 30 August 2020, to be sent to JTH Editor-in-chief Massimo Moraglio jth.editor@gmail.com

Submissions after this deadline are also welcome, and they can be delivered to <https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/JTH> Papers will be subject to a double blind review process. Final submissions for the full papers should be lodged by **30 November 2020**.

Massimo Moraglio

Technische Universitaet Berlin, Germany

Michael Bess

Centro de Investigacio´n y Docencia Econo´micas, Mexico

Greet De Block

University of Antwerp, Belgium

Mike Esbester

University of Portsmouth, UK

Valentina Fava

Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic

Dhan Zunino Singh

University of Quilmes, Argentina

Historiography of Science and History of Science [The December 2020 Edition]

www.historiographyofscience.org

The upcoming December 2020 edition of *Transversal: International Journal for the Historiography of Science* will not feature a special issue (dossier) on a specific point of the historiography of science, *as usual*. Due to the large number of regular articles on open and broad themes in history and the historiography of science constantly being received and which do not fit in special issues – but are particularly important to the field – this next edition of *Transversal* aims at bringing

together different viewpoints on the writing of the historiography of science and additionally, the history of science, philosophy of science, and science education. The aim is to display, in an open and broad sense, the different possibilities and approaches to this field of study.

We hope to receive articles that discuss the history and historiography of distinctive disciplines (physics, mathematics, biology, geography, sociology, etc.) as well as different subjects and approaches of history and philosophy of science (the foundation of science, scientific methodology, social and scientific relationships, etc.).

Submission details:

Submission must be received by **September 15, 2020** via the journal webpage www.historiographyofscience.org so they can be considered for the **December 2020** issue.

Submissions must be prepared for double blind review. Notification of acceptance will be sent on **November 15, 2020**.

Please, see the [Author Guidelines](#) here.

For any further information concerning this Call for Papers please contact:

Mauro L. Condé – Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil

E-mail: mauroconde@ufmg.br

Marlon Salomon – Universidade Federal de Goiás, Brazil

E-mail: marlonsalomon@ufg.br

***The Journal of the International Society for the
History of Philosophy of Science***

Special Issue: *Building Universe(s). The philosophical and mathematical underpinnings of cosmology (18th-20th century).*

The ERC project Paradoxes and Metaphors of Time in Early Universe(s) (PROTEUS) is delighted to invite submissions for the special issue titled “*Building Universe(s). The philosophical and mathematical underpinnings of cosmology (18th-20th century)*”.

Editors: Silvia De Bianchi, Autonomous University of Barcelona, silvia.debianchi@uab.cat; Federico Viglione, Autonomous University of Barcelona federico.viglione@uab.cat

This special issue is devoted to the history of the philosophical and mathematical foundations of cosmology (18th-20th century). It takes into account the period ranging from the great revolution in observational cosmology introduced by William Herschel up to the 20th century, including the observation of the CMB radiation. The development of both theoretical and observational cosmology disclosed with unprecedented precision and depth the structure of our universe and they had been and still are inextricably based on mathematical and philosophical underpinnings. In this special issue both are investigated by focusing on the work of scientists, mathematicians and philosophers that contributed to the formulation of approaches that were or still are of fundamental importance for the understanding of the history and philosophy of cosmology. We welcome contributions on both how mathematicians and philosophers contributed to cosmological models or on the analysis of the history of the models, such as the steady state theory, and the concurring contribution of various actors for their development.

Invited contributors

- Cinzia Ferrini (University of Trieste)
- Claus Beisbart (University of Bern)
- Craig Fraser (University of Toronto)

Our issue can already count on contributions on the following topics

- Kant and Schelling on cosmology
- Kant's Evolutionary View of Natural History
- The Antinomy of Pure Reason in the Light of Problems of Present-Day Cosmology
- The reception of the first antinomy and the cosmological debate of the middle 20th century
- Cosmology Before Slipher

Instructions for Authors: Contributors should submit their articles by January 31, 2021. Papers must not exceed 7000 words. Please make your submission through

<https://www.editorialmanager.com/hopos/default.aspx>

More information available at

<https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/journals/hopos/instruct?mobileUi=0>

VIII. CALLS FOR PAPERS



Since 1991, when the first meeting was organized in Veszprem (Hungary), the Working Party on the History of Chemistry (WPHC) of the European Chemical Society (EuChemS) organizes an international conference on the history of chemistry, open to colleagues from all over the world. Thirty years later, the 13rd International Conference on History of Chemistry (13ICHC) will be held in Vilnius (Lithuania), from the 18th to the 22nd of May 2021. See:

(<https://www.ichc2021vilnius.chgf.vu.lt/>).

The ICHC aims to bring together historically interested chemists, chemistry educators and historians of chemistry from all over Europe and beyond. For more information on the WP, see the website: <http://www.euchems.eu/divisions/history-of-chemistry-2/>.

The conference will be hosted by Vilnius University (established in 1579), in the premises of the old city. The Department of Chemistry was established in 1797, still holding a position of one of the most popular departments at the University. The conference will include scientific sessions, keynote lectures, the WP business meeting, a poster session as well as social events such as excursions, receptions, and a conference dinner banquet. It is a pleasure to inform that the plenary lectures by Marta Lourenço (Director of the National Museum of Natural History and Science of Lisbon), Rimantas Vaitkus (President of the Lithuanian Chemical Society), and Rimvydas Baranauskas (Prime Partners), are already approved, and other keynote speakers will be announced soon. Some useful

information on the city, the excursion organised on 22 May 2021 to Kernavė and the Trakai History Museum, and accommodation can be found on the [conference website](#), and the [Facebook page](#). The 13ICHC in Vilnius will be organised in conjunction with the Belorussian-Lithuanian-Polish Jędrzej Sniadecki Memorial Conference “Frontiers in Molecular Life Sciences” – JSJC2021. Jędrzej Sniadecki was the first head of Chemistry Department at Vilnius University (during 1797–1822). The conference JSJC2021 will continue to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Sniadecki's birth.

Important Dates*:

-Deadline for submitting proposals: 1 December 2020

- Notification of acceptance: January 2021

-Provisional program: Early February 2021

-Final program: April 2021

-Conference dates: 18th to the 22nd of May 2021.

*Due to the worldwide sanitary crisis, it might be necessary to alter some of these dates at a later stage.

Proposal guidelines:

The Steering Committee encourages the submission of panel/session proposals, but also accepts the submission of stand-alone papers. The 13ICHC welcomes proposals on any topic on the history of chemistry, broadly understood, including historical works on molecular sciences, life sciences, industry, technology, and education. We will also welcome papers on the teaching of history of chemistry, in order to reach out to the wider community and to the younger generation.

All proposals must be in English, the language of the conference. Submitted abstracts and session proposals (max. 200 words) will be subject to review by an international Advisory Committee. Sessions should include about 3–5 papers, and no more than one session can be proposed by the same organizer. There is a limit of one paper per presenter (including the papers listed inside a panel or a session). All paper proposals must use the [templates](#) provided on the conference web site.

The Steering Committee consists of Ernst Homburg, Maastricht University, and Ignacio Suay-Matallana, IILP-Universidad Miguel Hernández, (chairs of the Steering Committee), Brigitte Van Tiggelen, Science History Institute, (chair of the WPHC), and Rimantas Vaitkus, Vilnius University, (co-chair of the Local Organising Committee, president of the Lithuanian Chemical Society).

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

Belgium

[Tenured academic staff, Heritage studies focused on participatory methods of heritage management and heritage education](#)

University of Antwerp Faculty of Design Sciences
Antwerpen, Belgium

Denmark

[Research Professorship with special responsibilities \(MSO\) in Modern Danish Welfare Studies – history, society, materiality](#)

The National Museum of Denmark
The National Museum of Denmark
Copenhagen, Denmark

Sweden

[Professor – History of Religions w/ specialisation in Contemporary Religion](#)

Lund University
Centre for Theol & Rel Studies (CTR)
Lund, Sweden

PhD Studentship - University of Glasgow and Creative Carbon Scotland

Following a successful joint proposal to the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities between the University of Glasgow and Creative Carbon Scotland, we are delighted to invite applications for a fully funded PhD studentship.

The interdisciplinary project – “Assessing arts-based interventions for sustainable practice” – will observe a range of creative interventions, critically reflect upon them as both artistic creations and mechanisms for change within an Energy and Environmental Humanities framework, and develop a portable qualitative framework for the design and assessment of arts-based interventions.

The successful candidate will spend time with Creative Carbon Scotland assessing what makes arts-based interventions effective in realising sustainable cultural and social changes at the local, institutional and regional level. University of Glasgow’s Dr Tom Bartlett and Dr Rhys Williams from the School of Critical Studies will supervise this AHRC Collaborative Doctoral studentship, due to commence in Autumn 2020. Deadline for applications is **Friday 3rd July 2020**. Info on this position can be found at: <https://www.creativecarbonscotland.com/opportunity-phd-studentship/>

We are looking for a PhD candidate to conduct research on a project recently funded by the Research Fund Flanders (FWO), titled “The Professionalization of Science: Analysis and Normative Implications”. While the topic of the project seems very specific, it in fact concerns science & values in the broadest sense and is situated at the intersection between philosophy of science and applied ethics. **Apply via the following link:** : <https://www.kuleuven.be/personeel/jobsite/jobs/55689213>

Short description of the project

In the past two decades, the realization has grown that the phenomenon of scientific misconduct is not limited to a few ill-intentioned scientists – the proverbial ‘rotten apples’. It is now clear that there are also structural causes, and hence that scientific misconduct is intertwined with ‘questionable research practices’ and sloppy science. In response, many of the policy changes have followed a textbook example of professionalization: there has been a big push for researchers to adhere to a code of conduct, and for integrity boards reviewing alleged infractions of the code. Yet what does professionalization precisely mean? Is it appropriate to impose a model of professional self-regulation, similar to that in medicine or law, on scientific research? In this project we aim at understanding what precisely professionalization and professionalism are, and to what extent they are appropriate for scientific research.

Job description

You will conduct PhD research under the supervision of Professors [Kris Dierickx](#) and [Hugh Desmond](#). You will be based at [the Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law at the KU Leuven](#), an interdisciplinary centre that performs research on ethical and societal issues.

For those wishing to do so, there is a possibility that the PhD is set up as a joint-PhD between the **Centre for Biomedical Ethics** at KU Leuven (lead-university) and the [Department of Philosophy](#) at the University of Antwerp.

Your profile

- Strong interest in the ethical and social aspects of scientific research;
- A masters degree in a relevant discipline: philosophy (of science), applied ethics, history (of science), sociology or a relevant social science, theology, law;
- An outstanding record of undergraduate and master's degree work;
- Some formal education in a science will be considered a plus;
- Fluency in English, both written and orally;
- Strong writing and analytical skills;
- Good communication and organization skills;
- Ability to meet deadlines and complete a PhD thesis within the defined project time;
- Capacity to work both as an independent researcher and as part of a team;
- Ability to work in an interdisciplinary context.

Please direct informal inquiries to:

kris.dierickx@kuleuven.be

hugh.desmond@kuleuven.be

Following should be included in your application:

- Cover Letter
- Curriculum Vitae
- Sample of written work: a paper or master's thesis
- Contact details of two references

Timeline

Deadline for applications: July 31st, 2020

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview, to be held in the second half of August. These may be conducted in person or via Skype.

Starting date of PhD: between September 1st and December 31st, 2020

X. ERRATA CORRIGE CONGRESS REPORT: PLASTICS HERITAGE CONGRESS: HISTORY, LIMITS AND POSSIBILITIES

ICOHTEC NWSL 169, MAY 2020, P.14

"Hugh Karraker, producer and great-grandson of Leo Hendrick Baekeland, Karraker presented, at Museu de Leiria, the documentary film "All Things Bakelite", which explores the life and work of Leo Hendrick Baekeland. The viewing of the film was followed by a round table debate, where academic leading figures, such as **Jeffrey Meikle**, Robert Friedel, Susan Mossman, Tom Fisher and Penny Sparke, as well as businessmen working with plastics, as Miguel Ritto (Plásticos Santo António), Paulo Almeida (Plasgal), Tiago Coelho (AGI), Pedro Gonçalves (CIRES) were present.

XI. 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.

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- 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

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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.