

ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

Nº182 November 2021

www.icohtec.org



Editor: Saara Matala, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden. If you have something to announce, please mail to newsletter@icohtec.org.

Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

After the ICOHTEC elections this year, the editor for the Newsletter has changed, and I take over to continue the great work the previous editor, Francesco Gerali, has done over the past years. The aim is to keep the Newsletter as interesting and informative as it has been but also introduce some slight changes. At the request by the Executive Committee, we will introduce a new section, "Meet the Icohtec," to introduce the Icohtec officials and members through short interviews. The first one to be presented is Secretary General Maria Elvira Callapez.

We are open to suggestion and proposals regarding the Newsletter. You can reach me via email (newsletter@icohtec.org).

Best Regards,

-Saara Matala

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1 Meet the Icohtec: Secretary General Maria Elvira Callapez

1. Who are you?

I am a researcher at [CIUHCT](#). I got my PhD in 2002 studying the plastic industry in Portugal, based on a case study on Technology Transfer. My other research interests focus on innovation studies compared to the international scene, such as the relationship among plastics, technology, science, environmental regulation, material culture, circular economy, industry, engineering, and political ecology.

2. What have you done in Icohtec?

I've been serving ICOHTEC in a variety of activities. In 2016, I was Chairperson of the Local Organizing Committee of the 43rd ICOHTEC meeting and the 1st ICOHTEC Summer School in Lisbon and in Porto. I have been the Chairperson of the "Maurice Daumas Prize" Committee (2017- 2021) and of the Summer School Committee (2019-2020). I was also a Member of the Executive Committee, of ICOHTEC, from 2011-2019.

3. What are you plans to develop Icohtec?

We plan to bring together historians of technology and other researchers based on a multidisciplinary communication, broaden the ICOHTEC Committee membership, and spread its objectives and presence throughout several continents, countries, universities, research centers, institutes, and interests' groups.

We aim to expand and encourage the participation of members in thematic seminars, lectures, workshops, colloquiums, webinars throughout the year outside the annual ICOHTEC Meeting. We invite researchers to share their expertise promoting the interdisciplinarity agenda. In particular, I propose **bimonthly** online sessions via zoom. In the future, when times are better, we could schedule a **mix of in-person, zoom, and hybrid events**. Another idea is to extend the initiatives to **high school teachers** and make them aware the potential of studies on the History of Technology.

4. What is your favorite memory from Icohtec-related events?

I have been a member since the Icohtec meeting in Lisbon in 1998. I have kept a lot of friends that I met at that time, making up a big family. I remember great scientific sessions, excellent social, cultural, and gastronomic programs including the Jazz concerts.

5. What about your life outside the academy?

I collect plastic objects either for the material they are made of or for the design even though I still don't have an organized collection of plastics. Things that give me great satisfaction include reading, classical music, opera, cinema, ballet, Taiji.

2 Icohtect News

2.1 General Assembly and Elections 202

ICOHTEC General Assembly took place online 24 August 2021.

Executive Board 2021-2025

President – Stefan Poser, stefan.poser(at)kit.edu

Vice-president – Yoel Bergman, yoelbo62[at]gmail.com

Secretary-General – Maria Elvira Callapez, mariaelviracallapez(at)gmail.com

Treasurer – Viktor Pál, viktor.paal(at)gmail.com

Journal Editor-in-Chief – Hermione Giffard, editor[at]icohtec.org (2021). Followed by Peeter Mürsepp (2022).

Newsletter Editor – Saara Matala, newsletter@icohtec.org

Webmaster – Sławomir Łotysz, s.lotysz[at]gmail.com

Executive Committee

The new members of the EC:

Simone Fari

Jan Hadlaw

Hugo Silveira Pereira

Other members of the EC:

Dick van Lente

Christopher Neumaier

Suryyia Manzoor

Maria da Luz Sampiao

Kamna Tiwary

Magda Zdrodowska

Nelson Arellano

Faxiang Ming

Peeter Mürsepp

2.2 The Icohtec 49th Symposium 2022 online: “Technology-based and Technology-generated decisions”

The 2022 International Committee for the History of Technology’s 49th Symposium will take place virtually. It will occur in 3 phases, each lasting two days. The 1st meeting will be in June (17, 18), the 2nd in September (24, 25), and the 3rd in October (15, 16). The Kranzberg Lecture will take place in June.

The general theme is “Technology-based and Technology-generated decisions”. Whereas technology-based decisions have a long history, technology-generated decisions of so-called artificial intelligence, AI, are on the horizon since the turn of the 21st century and might gain decisive influence within the next years. Which decisions we are willing to handle over to technology? How to define ethical guidelines for this development? The symposium aims to contribute to this discussion, based on a transnational perspective of the history of technology.

The deadline for proposal is **Sunday, 30 January 2022**.

For a long time, societies have considered technology a value-neutral instrument for various purposes, including decision-making by organizations. Between the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, technology progressively increased its pivotal role in societies: governments, companies, or individual people considered technology essential for living and surviving. But due to increasing over-saturation with technology, negative outcomes became visible and thus, subject of public discussion.

Technology is involved in decision-making in two ways: decisions based on technology and technology-generated decisions. Human societies are used to base their decisions thanks to technologies permitting them, for instance, data collection. Cartography was helpful in decisions such as financing exploratory expeditions traveling, trade, or military operations since the early modern era. In the contemporary World, high-resolution satellite images are the base for the decision-making process in military operations or identifying places where it could be possible to extract mineral and oil resources. Moreover, new

technologies often inspire new ways to perform old tasks (e.g., imaging technologies in medical diagnosis) and inspire taking on new tasks (think military rockets being applied to spaceflight). Second, the design and manufacture of technology require decisions that affect how it works, how it is used, how it is manufactured, etc. Certain decisions regarding material properties, usage scenarios (e.g., usability), and areas of application require different types of production. Conversely, the type of production chosen (technology, process, etc.) influences the possible uses of the technology and its artifacts.

Suggestions for more specific questions, derived from the main question:

- What are the social/historical/cultural conditions of technology related decision-making?
- Decisions on science and technology: inclusion and citizen participation
- What are the ethical conditions of technology-generated decisions?
- Which transnational perspectives can be taken regarding technology-inherent decisions?
- How do these technology-inherent decisions affect the critique of technology (e.g., impact factor in science, “publish or perish”)?
- Technocracy is a well-researched topic. What is the state of the art in this field? Any new approaches, theories, empirical findings?
- Data recording and processing is a core task now carried out with computers. Which technologies were used – and where and how – before the advent of computing?
- Modern challenges and technology based/generated decisions (e.g., climate change, COVID-19 pandemic, individual health, and public health); artistic strategies involving technology/generated decisions; body, dis/ability, and technology based/generated decisions
- The role of images (maps, photographs, etc.) in decision making.

The symposium covers all periods and all areas of the globe. In keeping with a cherished tradition of the field, the meeting is open to scholars from all disciplines and backgrounds. Gender-related and worldwide topics are specifically welcome. Besides contributions to the main theme of the symposium, paper and session proposals on different topics of the history of technology are welcome.

Proposal Guidelines

ICOHTEC welcomes proposals for individual papers and posters, but preference will be given to organised sessions of three or more papers. The Programme Committee will also consider submissions not directly related to the symposium theme providing that they relate to the history of technology broadly defined. All proposals must be in English and should be submitted electronically by 30 January 2022 via our website <http://www.icohtec.org/w-annual-meeting/> (will be available, soon). For suggestions about preparing your submission and the conference presentation, please consult the guidelines on www.icohtec.org/proposal-guidelines.html. In addition to the scientific programme, the symposium will include plenary sessions, special sessions for the prize winning book and article, the general assembly of ICOHTEC. If you have any questions related to the scientific programme, paper, poster or session proposals, please, do not hesitate to contact Jacopo Pessina, the chair of the programme committee, at j.pessina87@gmail.com.

We especially encourage graduate students to submit proposals and to participate in the symposium.

Members of ICOHTEC and low-income people pay a reduced fee.

INDIVIDUAL PAPER proposals must include: (1) a 300-word (maximum) abstract; and (2) a one-page (maximum) CV. Abstracts should include the author's name and email address, a short descriptive title, three to five keywords, a concise statement of the thesis, a brief discussion of the sources, and a summary of the major conclusions. If you are submitting a paper proposal dealing with a particular subtheme in this CfP, please indicate this in your proposal. In preparing your paper, remember that presentations are not full-length articles. You will have no more than 20 minutes to speak, which is roughly equivalent to 8 double-spaced typed pages. For more suggestions about preparing your conference presentation, please consult the guidelines at the conference website. Contributors are encouraged to submit full-length versions of their papers after the conference for consideration by ICOHTEC's peer-reviewed journal ICON.

PANEL proposals must include (1) an abstract of the panel (300 words maximum), listing the proposed papers and a session chairperson; (2) abstracts for each paper (300 words maximum); (3) a one-page CV (maximum) for each contributor and chairperson. Panels should consist of three or four speakers. Several panels may be organized on one topic.

We encourage the creation of panels that examine technology-based and technology-generated decisions in different parts of the world, enabling international comparisons, and contributing to an emerging transnational historiography. We welcome especially contributions from beyond Europe and the United States, which so far have been less fully covered by historians of technology.

The programme committee reserves the right to relocate papers to different themes and add papers to panels.

POSTER proposals must include (1) a 300-word (maximum) abstract; and (2) a one-page CV. Abstracts should include the author's name and email address, a short descriptive title, a concise statement of the thesis, a brief discussion of the sources, and a summary of the major conclusions.

Programme Committee:

- Pessina Jacopo IT (Chair), j.pessina87@gmail.com
- Florian Bettel AT, florian.bettel@uni-ak.ac.at
- Ercolani Sara IT - supers.ercolani@gmail.com
- Fari Simone IT/ES _ fari@ugr.es
- Hadlaw Jan CA, jhadlaw@yorku.ca
- Limina Valentina IT - valentinalimina@gmail.com
- Min Fanxiang CHI – fanxiangmin@nju.edu.cn
- Mürsepp Peeter EST, peeter.muursepp@taltech.ee
- Schuetz Thomas GE , thomas.schuetz@hi.uni-stuttgart.de
- Yagou Artemis (only for the evaluation of papers) GE/GR , artemis@yagou.gr
- Zrodowska Magdalena PL , magda.zrodowska@uj.edu.pl

2.3 New Editor of ICON: Dr. Peeter Mürsepp

Hermione Giffard, our current editor in chief of ICON, is leaving the position at the beginning of next year, after publishing the second volume 2021. We would like to thank her for her great job in editing interesting volumes and bringing ICON forward since 2015. She will be followed in the position by Peeter Mürsepp. Associate Professor Mürsepp has his first degree in mathematics from the University of Tartu. He received his PhD in humanities (philosophy) from the University of Vilnius. Since 2011 he has been the Chairperson of the Estonian Association of the History and Philosophy of Science. In 2013 he founded the SCOPUS indexed journal [Acta Baltica Historiae et Philosophiae Scientiarum](#) and has been its Editor-in-Chief from the beginning. In 2016 Peeter Mürsepp was elected as a corresponding member of the International Academy of the History of Science. He is executive committee member of ICOHTEC.

Concerning developing ICON, the new editor will focus on three keywords – quality, regularity and visibility: double blind peer-review, good English, regularity in publishing, inclusion into Web of Science, clearly defined open access policy.

2.4 Icohtec Membership

If not done until now, please pay your annual fees to our account at: Commerzbank Bochum, “ICOHTEC“ at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany): IBAN: DE44 4304 0036 0390 2590 00; BIC: COBADEFFXXX. Thank you for your support!

Please send in the form on the last page of the Newsletter about your payment and renewed membership to the Secretary general, Maria Elvira Callapez, [mariaelvira.callapez\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:mariaelvira.callapez@gmail.com), and to the Treasurer Viktor Pál, [viktor.paal\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:viktor.paal@gmail.com), in order to update our list of members.

2.5 Kranzberg Lecture 2022: Professor Maria Paula Diogo

The Kranzberg Lecture will be held by **Maria Paula Diogo**. She is Professor of History of Technology and Engineering at the Department of Applied Social Sciences, NOVA School of Science and Technology. Having pioneered the field of History of Technology in Portugal, her research focuses on the History of Technology and Engineering in Portugal and Colonies and on the processes of globalization of science and technology, particularly concerning knowledge transfer, networks, and relationship between centers and peripheries. Her recent publications include *Europeans Globalizing: Mapping, Exploiting, Exchanging*, (co-author; Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), *Gardens and Human agency in the Anthropocene* (co-editor; Routledge, 2020), *Inventing. A European Nation. Engineers for Portugal from Baroque to Fascism* (co-author; Morgan & Claypool, 2021), and *Ciência. Tecnologia e Medicina na Construção de Portugal* (Science, Technology and Medicine in Portugal (4 volumes); co-editor, Tinta da China 2021).

In 2020, she was awarded the Leonardo da Vinci Medal by SHOT for her pioneering contribution to the field of history of technology in Portugal.

2.6 Turriano Icohtec Prize 2021

Winner for the Turriano Icohtec Prize for the best book-length work in history of technology written by early-stage scholar **Kang, Hyeok Hweon**, Washington University.

Honourful mentioned **Martin Meiske**, Deutsches Museum, and **Stefan Esselborn**, Munich Technical University.

Report of the Turriano ICOHTEC Prize Committee 2021

The 2021 Turriano ICOHTEC Prize Committee has decided to award the 2021 Turriano ICOHTEC Prize for the best book-length work in history of technology written by early-stage scholar to Hyeok Hweon Kang for his dissertation *Crafting Knowledge: Artisan, Officer, and the Culture of Making in Chosŏn Korea, 1392–1910*. We consider his dissertation

to be an innovative contribution to our knowledge on long-term transformations of artisan culture. Based on artisan culture in Korea, it challenges a claim made for a while by Western historians, that artisan and scholarly cultures converged over time. Drawing on a recent development especially by Asian scholars, artisan culture is examined in its own right, and interpreted taking to consideration the multiple factors that shape it. It looks at workshops as places of knowledge making and trading, the emerging epistemologies, and the making of the artefacts itself. Kang's work clearly shows the contribution of people who were of relatively low social standing in the society of that time, to the circulation of knowledge and skills and to technological innovation. The long-term analysis successfully brings to light the continuities and changes leading to the emergence of the new, normalized technical regimes. There is a strong focus on practitioners here and, interestingly, the methods to examine them are equally historical as well as anthropological - a recent and beneficial trend in the history of technology. The jury has considered that this dissertation might have a lasting impact in the study of making, artefacts, technology, and the arts.

Furthermore, we have decided to award two honourable mentions for two outstanding contributions to the history of technology, to Martin Meiske and to Philippe Bruyère. **Martin Meiske's** *Die Geburt des Geoengineerings* is a rigorous, and, at the same time, well-written and entertaining study that situates the beginnings of geoengineering in the context of a world shaped by humans, the Anthropocene. A product of a solid and broad research, it places its narrative in a broader perspective of economy, nature and power. We have found extremely valuable how the author explores the links to current political movements on climate change; a dialogue between history of technology, on the one hand, and political and social history, on the other, is still less common than expected, and much needed. The book is exceptionally well presented and illustrated, and it also benefits from a detailed bibliography and index.

Philippe Bruyère's book *La puissance du vent* is a well-written book dealing with an attractive, relevant topic of wind energy, with an original, innovative structure. He has

chosen to address the subject through four “technical scenes” that invite us to explore four specific historical periods, in different political and geographical contexts including France, Denmark and Germany. The four images allow the reader to explore the great paradox of the history of technology: the unity of principles and the diversity of use, in the changing socio-political context. Beyond a rigorous study of the history of a specific technical object, the author successfully reflects upon the meaning, the nature and the function of this object and on the way it is perceived in different historical periods. The book is a work of a historian capable of complex analysis taking to account technical, scientific, economic, ecological, social, and political issues.

The Prize Committee members who participated in the collective decision are

Irina Gouzévitch
Klaus Staubermann
Tiina Männistö-Funk
Jacopo Pessina
Darina Martykánová (Chairperson)

2.7 The Maurice Daumas Prize 2021

Winner of the Maurice Daumas Prize for papers on the history of technology 2021:

Dominique Berry, a research fellow at the University of Birmingham, for his paper “Making DNA and its becoming an experimental commodity” published in 2019 in *Environment and History*, 25, 219-244.

Honourful mentioned **Stefan Esselborn** for his paper "Constructing Crashworthiness" and **Sara Caputo** for her paper "Exploration and Mortification: Fragile Infrastructures, Imperial Narratives, and the Self-Sufficiency of British Naval "Discovery" Vessels, 1760-1815".

2.8 Report of the Icohtec’s first digital meeting, 15 – 17 July 2020

The theme of the 47th symposium of the International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC) was "A History of Technology for an Age of Crisis." The symposium

was scheduled at Eindhoven University of Technology, a center of research for the history of technology in Europe but it was transferred entirely to digital format. The full report of the conference is published in [Technology and Culture](#).

3 Call for Papers and Participants

3.1 Icohtec Summer School 2022

Icohtec Summer School for doctoral students and early career scholars will take place online May 14-16, 2022.

Call for participants and more information will be published later.

3.2 The 10th Tensions of Europe Conference in Aarhus University, Denmark 6-8 July 2022

Conference theme: Technology, Environment and Resources

Deadline for proposals: 31 October 2021

Notification of decisions: 31 January 2022

DL for registration 30 April 2022

For the complete Call for Paper and more information: <https://conferences.au.dk/toe10/>

3.3 Tensions of Europe Pre-conference Summer School for Early Career Scholars 27-28 June, Aarhus, Denmark.

Tensions of Europe Early Career Group will organize a summer school before the conference. This time, the summer school will focus on how young scholars can not only survive but also thrive in academia.

The Tensions of Europe network has established itself as an important forum and meeting point for historians of technology in Europe. In addition, the physical meetings, summer schools, and virtual conferences have been essential in facilitating international cooperation between early career scholars from different countries who are building their professional identity and academic networks.

The two-day Summer School for Early Career scholars will take place before the Tensions of Europe conference. The aim is to connect doctoral students and post-doctoral scholars to network, and to complement the main conference with content that is relevant for scholars in the early phase of their career.

Please indicate your interest in participation in the summer school by sending an email to annaaleksandrovna.petrova@yandex.ru.

The application includes:

- short abstract (300 words) describing your research interests
- short bio (50-100 words)
- 1-2 sentences about what kind of workshop/lecture would help you the most. Who would you like to have as a keynote speaker?

3.4 11th European Spring School on History of Science and Popularization.

Pandemic pasts, pandemic futures. 5-7 May 2022

Coordinated by Francisco Javier Martínez (Universidad de Zaragoza), Celia Miralles-Buil (Université de Strasbourg), and Quim Bonastra (Universitat de Lleida)

FINAL CALL FOR PAPERS: Deadline: 15 November 2021

The European Spring School on History of Science and Popularization is a joint venture of the Societat Catalana d'Història de la Ciència i de la Tècnica and Institut Menorquí d'Estudis. The only one of its kind, held for two decades with the aim of discussing issues and challenges in the history of science, technology and medicine, with a truly international outlook, constructive criticism and convivial atmosphere.

The COVID-19 pandemic has definitively shaken the late 20th-century belief in the end of infectious disease outbreaks in Western societies. The result is a feeling of reluctant reconnection with the past, when recurrent waves of plague, cholera, yellow fever, or influenza wreaked havoc upon large sections of the world population. Pandemics lie ahead

again, imminent or in a more distant future, and collective fear, mistrust and disorientation are likely to arise from time to time, as they did in previous centuries. Another general conviction is that COVID-19 will trigger – or accelerate – disruptions in politics, economy, society and culture. Parallels with the instability of the interwar period have already been suggested. The 11th European Spring School “Pandemic pasts, pandemic futures. Sources, histories, imaginations” intends to live up to the intellectual and social challenges brought about by the current pandemic. It will explore a trans-disciplinary idea: when a crisis storms the present, the search for solutions obliges to revisit the past and to re-imagine the future. Taking pandemics as events whose medical and sanitary traits are matched (or even exceeded) by their social, economic, cultural and political dimensions, the School will examine how devastating waves of disease end up bringing new configurations of collective life. A multidisciplinary approach will combine historical, anthropological, and artistic perspectives.

As in previous editions, this ESS is structured in key-note lectures, workshops, and poster sessions. Guest lecturers and artists will include:

- Christian Bonah (Université de Strasbourg)
- Iris Borowy (Shanghai University/EUI, Florence)
- Alexandre Faye (Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris)
- Mark Honigsbaum (City, University of London)
- MITO Collective (mito.tv)

The 11th ESS is open to junior scholars and postgraduate students of both social sciences and humanities or scientific background, who will have a great opportunity to engage with cutting edge work and present their own contributions. The School will particularly favour proposals that cross boundaries between disciplines, temporal focus and working spaces. All participants are expected to take part in the discussions of the lectures and workshops, to visit and comment the posters exhibit and to engage in the mentoring and artistic sessions.

The ESS will be finally held on 5-7 May 2022 at the premises of the old Mahón/Maó lazaretto, in the island of Menorca.

The deadline for proposals to the workshops and poster sessions is 15 November 2021. Please, send a 200-word abstract and a 1-page CV to 11thspringschool@gmail.com

3.5 Call for Applications/BHC Dissertation Colloquium 2022 Mexico City

The BHC Doctoral Colloquium in Business History will be held on **April 6th and 7th, 2022**. We are strongly hoping to meet in Mexico, but because of the pandemic, it remains possible that this prestigious workshop for Ph.D. students could be held remotely via Zoom. Therefore, until the last moment, and depending on variants and cases in Mexico, we will keep the possibility of moving to a full online DC by February 2022 (TBC). We will also schedule a few professional development sessions at different times, which will be held remotely.

Typically limited to ten students, the colloquium is open to doctoral candidates pursuing dissertation research within the broad field of business history from any relevant discipline (e.g., from economic sociology, political science, cultural anthropology, or management, as well as history). Most participants are in year 3 or 4 of their degree program. However, in some instances, applicants at a later stage make a compelling case that their thesis research had evolved in ways that led them to see the advantages of an intensive engagement with business history.

We welcome proposals from students working within any thematic area of business history.

Participants work intensively with a distinguished group of BHC-affiliated scholars (including the incoming BHC president), discussing dissertation proposals, relevant literatures and research strategies, and career trajectories.

Applications (a statement of interest; CV; preliminary or final dissertation prospectus of 10 to 15 pages; and a letter of support from your dissertation advisor) are due on Friday,

December 10, 2021, via email to Carol Lockman (clockman@Hagley.org). Questions about the colloquium should be sent to its director, Prof. Eric Godelier (eric.godelier@polytechnique.edu). Applicants will receive notification of the selection committee's decisions by Monday, January 17, 2022. If they travel to Mexico, all participants will receive a stipend that partially defrays travel costs to the annual meeting.

Colloquium participants have a choice of pre-circulating one of the following:

- a 15-page dissertation prospectus or updated overview of the dissertation research plan; or
- a draft dissertation chapter, along with a one-page dissertation outline/description.

Participants should choose the option that they feel will most assist them at this stage in their research and writing. We will need either your prospectus/overview or your chapter draft and outline by April 1. Those will then be posted on a Colloquium webpage on the BHC website and shared with all participants to read them in advance.

The Colloquium director is Eric Godelier, Professor of Business History, Ecole Polytechnique (France). Interested students may direct inquiries to him at eric.godelier@polytechnique.edu

4 Job openings and positions

4.1 Two Postdoc Positions (2-3 years, 1fte) in History of Philosophy of Science and/or Digital Humanities

The Department of Philosophy at Tilburg University seeks to appoint two postdoctoral researchers (2 or 3 years, 0,8 - 1,0 FTE) in the NWO Vidi project “[Exiled Empiricists: American Philosophy and the Great Intellectual Migration](#)”. Starting date: August or September 2022.

Profiles of the candidates

The postdoc's primary responsibility will be to contribute to the research project and to publish in peer-reviewed journals and books. The researcher should also contribute to the project in other ways, such as by giving conference presentations, (co-)editing a special issue, and (co-)organizing reading groups and workshops. Furthermore, the researcher will be a member of the Tilburg Center for Moral Philosophy, Epistemology and Philosophy of Science (TiLPS) and contribute to its colloquia and seminars.

Requirements position 1.

AOS: History of Philosophy of Science or History of Logic or Intellectual History

We are looking for a postdoctoral researcher who satisfies the following requirements:

- A completed PhD in philosophy, HPS, STS, intellectual history or a related field.
- A strong, promising track-record of international peer-reviewed publications
- Affinity with the topic of the project
- Excellent speaking and writing skills in English, as demonstrated by published work.
- Experience with archival studies is an advantage but not a requirement.
- An entrepreneurial and team player attitude is highly valued.
- Ability and willingness to contribute to the development and acquisition of externally funded projects.

Requirements position 2.

AOS: Digital Humanities/Scientometrics/Bibliometrics

We are looking for a postdoctoral researcher who satisfies the following requirements:

- A completed PhD in philosophy, computer science, history, computational linguistics or a related field.
- Demonstrable knowledge of bibliometric methods such as topic modeling, citation analysis, and concordance analysis.
- Solid programming skills in Python and optionally other programming languages.
- A strong, promising track-record of international peer-reviewed publications
- Affinity with the topic of the project
- Demonstrable research experience in philosophy, HPS, STS, intellectual history, or a related field in humanities is an advantage but not a requirement.
- Excellent speaking and writing skills in English, as demonstrated by published work.
- An entrepreneurial and team player attitude is highly valued.

- Ability and willingness to contribute to the development and acquisition of externally funded projects.

Further information and application

For the complete call for applications, visit the [project webpage](#). For inquiries about the positions and the project, please contact the Principal Investigator of the project, Sander Verhaegh at [A.A.Verhaegh\[at\]tilburguniversity.edu](mailto:A.A.Verhaegh[at]tilburguniversity.edu).

The candidate should submit all the following documents:

- a letter of application, which should include mention of the position you are applying for and may include explanations of any circumstances that you would like to be taken into account when considering your application (e.g. impact of Covid-19 restrictions, parental leave, etc.);
- a CV, including the names and contact information of two referees. (reference letters will be requested only for shortlisted candidates);
- a research plan (max. 1000 words).

Note for PhD students: your application will only be taken into account if you have successfully defended your PhD or if you can provide an official guarantee that your thesis defense is scheduled before August 1, 2022.

The deadline for applications is January 14, 2022. We will inform shortlisted candidates, before February 14, 2022. Interviews and short research talks will be held on March 1 and 2 by Zoom. Decisions will be announced before March 20, 2022.

5 Prizes

5.1 Maurice Daumas Prize – ICOHTEC’s Article Prize

The *International Committee for the History of Technology*, ICOHTEC, welcomes submissions for the *Maurice Daumas Prize*, which aims to encourage innovative scholarship in the history of technology. ICOHTEC is interested in the history of technological

development as well as its relationship to science, society, economy, culture, and the environment. There is no limitation as to theoretical or methodological approaches.

The prize will be awarded to the author of the best article submitted which deals with the history of technology in any period of the past or in any part of the world and which was published in a journal or edited volume in 2020 or 2021. Eligible for the prize are original articles published in (or later translated into) any of the official ICOHTEC languages (English, French, German, Russian or Spanish). Submissions are welcomed from scholars of any country **who are currently in graduate school or have received their doctorate within the last seven years**. Please send your submission and a brief (not to exceed one-page) cv to *each* of the seven Prize Committee members **no later than 15 January 2022**. **Electronic submissions are preferred**. The winner will be contacted in late April 2022.

The prize will be awarded at our 49th Symposium, will take place **virtually**. It will occur in **3 phases, each lasting two days**. The 1st meeting will be in **June (17, 18)**, the 2nd in **September (24, 25)**, and the 3rd in **October (15, 16)**. The **winner will receive a cash prize of Euro 500**. Alongside the first prize, **articles in the second and third-ranking positions** will receive an **honorarium/diploma** award.

The Daumas Prize is sponsored by the Université de Technologie de Belfort-Montbéliard (UTBM), France.

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MAURICE DAUMAS (1910 - 1984) – The French Trailblazer

The history of technology would never have become a prominent field of historical research without energetic pathbreakers. Maurice Daumas was one of them. One of his better known early works is *Les instruments scientifiques aux XVIIe et XVIIIe siècles*, which was also published in English. Between 1962 and 1978, he edited a highly acclaimed history of technology, *Histoire générale des techniques*, in five volumes, which has been translated into English and Spanish, and used as a textbook in various countries. In France, Daumas was also the pioneer of industrial archaeology. Daumas was the first secretary general of ICOHTEC and the host of its symposium at Pont-à-Mousson in 1970.

For further information about Daumas:

http://www.persee.fr/web/revues/home/prescript/issue/rhs_0151-4105_1984_num_37_3

5.2 The Pamela Laird Travel Award

Mercurians is the SHOT special interest [group](#) for history of communications. The Mercurians Prize and Pamela Laird Travel Award help increase and raise the level of new scholarship in the field by new or junior scholars; that is, either current graduate students, or postgraduates who are no more than three years beyond receipt of the terminal degree in their field at the application deadline.

The Pamela Laird Travel Award helps defray the costs of travel and housing to use a research collection. The Mercurians Prize is for the best article on the history of communication technologies that was published during the previous two years in any peer-reviewed journal.

The prize and the grant will be awarded in alternating years. The first two travel grants of US\$1,000 each were announced during the 2011 SHOT annual meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, and the third at the 2013 SHOT meeting in Portland, Maine, USA.

- Only travel to an appropriate archival collection for research on an aspect of the history of communication technology, broadly defined, will be supported.
- History is defined here as occurring at least 25 years before the date of application for the grant.
- The archive can be open to the public, private, or even closed, provided that necessary permissions have been obtained and documented for access.
- The deadline for submitting an application is 11:59 PM/23:59 Greenwich Mean Time, 5 December 2021.

Complete the application form [Word document] and email it and a c.v. (no more than 3 pages, 12-point font, 2.5cm/1 inch margins) to info@mercurians.org.

For more information, visit Mercurians [website](https://mercurians.org/prizes-and-grants/): <https://mercurians.org/prizes-and-grants/>

6 Open Access and Other Recent Publications

6.1 Lecture: A curator at the height of his powers: HW Dickinson, James Watt, and the Newcomen Society, 1919-1930” by Ben Russell

The lecture was held Wednesday 13th October was held as a hybrid meeting with 18 people attending in person at the Gallery, 77 Cowcross Street, London.

Sorting archival material in the Science Museum’s stores, unearthed a stack of unregistered papers documenting the correspondence of HW Dickinson, engineer, curator and historian. The papers have helped build a detailed picture of Dickinson’s work covering the period from 1919 until 1930, during which the Newcomen Society was founded, the Science Museum’s present East Hall was opened, and highly significant acquisitions of material relating to James Watt were made.

Dickinson’s work has been considered largely at one step removed. The 1919 centenary of Watt’s death has been examined in terms of the happenings in Birmingham, not London. The role of machines in memorialising the Industrial Revolution has been analysed in terms of the nineteenth century Patent Office Museum, not the twentieth century work of Dickinson and his colleagues. This paper will address the shortfall by exploring Dickinson’s *modus operandi* and motivations for creating a superlative body of material regarding the history of engineering, in what was a highly productive period for engineering curatorship.

Ben Russell has worked for the Science Museum since 1999, and has been curator of mechanical engineering since 2003. He wrote ‘James Watt: Making the World Anew (Reaktion 2014), edited ‘Robots’ (Scala, 2017). He has been lead curator for the museum’s East Hall (2005) and Watt’s Workshop (2011) galleries, as well as temporary exhibitions ‘Cosmonauts’ (2015) and ‘Robots’ (2017-2021). He has recently drawn up plans to refresh the East Hall and publish an accompanying book, and he is presently lead curator for a new gallery, working title ‘Engineers’, based around the Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering, opening in early 2023.

The lecture is available on the Newcomen Society’s [YouTube Channel](#).

6.2 Recent publication: Gerüste und Hilfskonstruktionen im historischen Baubetrieb.

Stefan M. Holzer: Gerüste und Hilfskonstruktionen im historischen Baubetrieb. Geheimnisse der Bautechnikgeschichte. Ernst-und-Sohn, Berlin 2021. ISBN: 978-3-433-03175-9 (hard cover or e-book).

The author, chair of construction history at ETH Zürich, has written an impressive book on a difficult subject: he analyzes the history of different scaffoldings from Ancient Roman times to the 20th century. His research is based on quite different sources as paintings and drawings, photos, technical drawings and descriptions in literature. Thanks to his broad approach he succeeds to link the development of scaffoldings to building construction and the shape of buildings.

**Form for annual membership renewals
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