Editor: Saara Matala, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden.

If you have something to announce, please mail to newsletter@icohtec.org.
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1 Icohtec News


The deadline for submissions for the ICOHTEC 2022 meeting is approaching. Please submit your proposal using the submission system at the latest on Saturday May 30th, 2022.

As a reminder, the conference will take place online and it is scheduled in two slots:


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 hand 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 full Call for Papers and submission guidelines is available on the conference webpage: https://icohtec2022.osu.eu/

1.2 Icohtec Membership

As a friendly reminder, 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 Treasurer Viktor Pál, viktor.paal(at)gmail.com and Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC, stefan.poser(at)kit.edu, in order to update our list of members.
2 Conferences and seminars

2.1 Workshop: Cold War Cooperation and Trans-systemic Exchanges. Sep, 2022

The Centre for the Study of Health, Ethics and Society, University of Hamburg, organizes a workshop titled “Across the ‘Nylon Curtain’ - Cold War Cooperation and Trans-systemic Exchanges” on September 30, 2022 in Villa Rissen, Hamburg, Germany.

Submission deadline: 15th June 2022

Studies of post-war Europe stress ideological divisions and competing economic models. As researchers working in the ERC-funded LEVIATHAN project, we approach the post-war period in a way that challenges the traditional view of Europe as a political dichotomy separated by an ‘Iron Curtain’. Instead, we understand the systemic divide, borrowing the metaphor of the Hungarian historian György Péteri, as a ‘Nylon Curtain’ – a present and yet surmountable partition that was frequently breached in a variety of ways by ordinary citizens, artists, scientists, politicians, and other historical actors.

We especially welcome proposals for papers from postdoctoral researchers and early career scholars that explore the transgressions and cooperations across the ‘Nylon Curtain’ from a variety of different angles, including but by no means limited to artistic, cultural, literary, political, scientific, and sociological collaborations between protagonists in East and West.

The workshop will be divided chronologically into three panels, 1945-1961, 1962-1980, and 1981-1991, in order to encourage a multitude of perspectives on specific time periods, and interdisciplinary reflections on the manifold ways the perceived divisions were circumvented, subverted or disregarded in the spirit of international collaboration and shared humanity during the Cold War.

Funding will be available and accommodation will be provided upon request. Workshop papers should be submitted by 31st August for advance circulation, and the proceeds of the workshop will subsequently be published in an edited volume in 2023.

Submission Deadline: 15th June 2022
Contact Info:
Dr. Will Studdert (william.studdert@uni-hamburg.de)

2.2 BSHS Postgraduate Conference 28th - 30th April, 2022. Free and Open.

The annual BSHS Postgraduate Conference is run by and for postgraduate research students but welcomes all researchers in any area of HSTM to attend. Due to the pandemic, the conference will be take place virtually via Zoom.

Held over three days, the conference features the cutting-edge research of postgraduate students working on the history of science, technology, and medicine, in a variety of time periods and geographic locations. We will be hearing a range of papers from postgraduates across the globe which cover everything from vernacular science in colonial Malabar, through aging in early modern England, to the marketing of Ribena as a ‘healthful foodstuff’ during wartime.

The conference will also include a wikithon with the Wellcome Trust’s Wikimedian in Residence Dr Alice White, careers advice from leading figures in a variety of industries, and networking opportunities. Hosted by the University of Birmingham, this virtual conference runs from 28th-30th April 2022, is free to attend, and open to all!

You can also follow us on Twitter for updates about the conference: @BSHSPostgrads

For full program and registration, visit: https://www.bshs.org.uk/bshs-pg-conference-2022

3 Open positions and fellowships

3.1 Lectureship at the CHSTM, Manchester, UK

The Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM) at the University of Manchester is inviting applications for an open-ended post as lecturer in Global History of Science, Technology or Medicine, with expertise in colonial, postcolonial or decolonized histories of science, medicine or technology (Full-time and permanent).
Closing date: 10 June.

The Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM) was founded in 1986. Since its inception, CHSTM has been dedicated to the integrated history of science, technology and medicine. CHSTM today is one of the largest groups in the UK dedicated to research and teaching in the integrated history of science, technology and medicine, especially in the nineteenth to twenty first centuries, and science and health communication.

Keen to broaden the teaching and research portfolio in the global history of science, technology and medicine (STM), CHSTM encourages applications from candidates with expertise in colonial, postcolonial or decolonized histories of science, medicine or technology. Candidates will have proven expertise in one of these fields (S, T or M), or a combination, as the Centre is dedicated to the integrated modern history of STM, along with science and health communication. The Centre particularly encourages applications from candidates whose research focuses on such knowledges and practices in regions commonly understood to form part of the Global South, such as Africa, Latin America, South Asia or Southeast Asia. The Centre will also consider applicants working on current or recent STM in other non-western contexts.

The successful candidate will be expected to possess a compelling research vision with strong potential to develop an excellent research portfolio attractive to research funders, with a view to building research leadership in their chosen field. They will possess a competitive publication record in accordance with their career stage, and sustainable plans to publish further peer reviewed academic work. They will have viable plans to apply for research funding and will be fully supported in this by experienced colleagues. CHSTM has an excellent track record with applications at different levels to funders including the Wellcome Trust, the European Research Council, the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). Candidates will have plans to organize seminars and conferences maintaining and further developing their
network of research contacts. CHSTM is a collegial and supportive academic work environment, and colleagues are keen to engage with each other’s research.

The role holder will support and enhance our teaching portfolio at undergraduate and postgraduate (MSc and PhD) levels. In addition to provision of innovative lectures and seminars, this will include playing an active role in undergraduate and postgraduate dissertation and project supervision, and taking on pastoral roles as an academic advisor. On appointment the role holder will be supported in developing and delivering course units at undergraduate and postgraduate level, based on their current area of research expertise.

The successful candidate will have the opportunity to supervise PhD students. CHSTM has a thriving community of research students, with projects funded by a variety of organizations. We are a key member of the Social Studies of Science, Technology and Medicine pathway of the ESRC-funded North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership, and we are keen for the role holder to develop competitive PhD projects for submission to funding bodies. CHSTM provides a unique academic environment strategically located to maximize the capacity of the humanities to understand and inform the sciences. Based in the School of Medical Sciences, within the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health, we work across the University of Manchester to encourage cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary research collaboration. We teach undergraduate students from diverse disciplines within the humanities and social sciences as well as those from science and medicine backgrounds. The successful candidate will complement our existing research strengths and enhance our provision of teaching in areas of growing student interest.

More information, a link to the Further Particulars document with person specification criteria, and details on how to apply is available here: https://www.jobs.manchester.ac.uk/displayjob.aspx?jobid=22343
3.2 Full-time PhD position in Switzerland

The Laboratory for the History of Science and Technology (LHST) at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) invites applications for one full-time PhD position within the project The Internationalization of Patent Systems: From Patent Cultures to Global Intellectual Property, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (Principal Investigator: Jérôme Baudry). The aim of the project is to better understand how national patent systems have been progressively internationalized, from the mid-nineteenth century until the birth of the World Intellectual Property Organization in 1967. By focusing on a plurality of actors (inventors, industrialists, patent agents and lawyers, economists, associations for the protection of industrial property, states and international proto-bureaucracies), the project seeks to uncover the networks of stakeholders, the economic and legal strategies, the material and intellectual practices, the convergences of interest and the conflicts that have shaped today’s global intellectual property.

Within this framework, the PhD student will develop their own research project, for example focusing on (one of) the following topics: the history of the international conferences and conventions for harmonizing patent rights; the role of patent agents and industrial property advocacy groups in the internationalization of patent systems; the emergence of specialized international organizations, from the Bureaux internationaux réunis pour la protection de la propriété intellectuelle to the World Intellectual Property Organization.

The project will also hire a postdoctoral researcher to work with the PhD student and the PI.

Profile:

Applicants should hold a master’s degree in history (or a related discipline in the humanities and social sciences) and have an interest/expertise in the history of science and technology, economic history, international history and/or legal history.
Fluent French and English; German an asset. The dissertation can be written in English or French. Interest in working in a multidisciplinary, international environment. Candidates of all nationalities are invited to apply; applications from women are especially welcome.

Starting date: September 1, 2022.

Duration: 4 years.

**Terms of employment:** Fixed-term at 100% work rate. EPFL offers internationally competitive salaries and generous research support. The annual gross salary for a first-year PhD student is CHF 52,700.

**Deadline for application:** Review of applications will begin on May 10, 2022 and will continue until the position is filled.

**How to apply:** If you are interested, please contact jerome.baudry@epfl.ch with (i) a curriculum vitae and (ii) a short cover letter explaining your interest in the project and outlining your proposed research questions.

**What LHST offers:**

LHST is a young and dynamic lab with an interdisciplinary perspective (history, history of science and technology, STS, anthropology) and an interest in experimenting with innovative methods in the digital humanities. The lab hosts a rich collection of historical scientific instruments.

EPFL provides an excellent and stimulating research and teaching environment as well as a dynamic and lively international campus with a vibrant student life. Located on Lake Geneva, Lausanne is a picturesque city with various possibilities for recreational and cultural activities.

For more information, visit: [https://www.epfl.ch/labs/lhst/open-positions/](https://www.epfl.ch/labs/lhst/open-positions/)
Scholarships for scholars from Ukraine at the Deutches Museum in Munich

Deutsches Museum in Munich are now offering short-term scholarships (max. 6 month) for Ukrainian scholars and to Russian political refugees.

Applicants are invited to base their projects on the collections of the Deutsches Museum and to cooperate closely with museum staff on site when formulating their research proposals. Projects involving innovative approaches to artefact-oriented research are especially welcome.

During their stay, visiting scholars will have daily contact with the museum’s curators, archivists and librarians (approx. 50 staff members) as well as members of the Münchner Zentrum für Wissenschafts- und Technikgeschichte (Munich Center for the History of Science and Technology; approx. 50 staff members).

Scholarship holders will have their own workplace with a desktop computer and telephone, and the opportunity to reside temporarily in subsidized apartments of the museum complex insofar as these are available. They will present their research projects to colleagues at the beginning of their stay and will be expected to participate regularly in the museum’s and the Munich Centre’s Monday colloquium series and workshops.

Pre-doctoral stipends: € 7,500 (six months) / € 15,000 (full year). Post-doctoral stipends: € 15,000 (six months) / € 30,000 (full year). Scholars at any level of seniority are eligible to apply, provided they have at least one university degree (Master or PhD). BA is not sufficient. There are no restrictions regarding nationality. All scholars are requested to make their own provisions for health insurance.

The ability to read German is a prerequisite for the application (passive language skills).

For more information and application guidelines (Letters of references are not required from the applicants from Ukraine):

https://www.deutsches-museum.de/en/research/research-institute/scholar-in-residence/application
3.4 PhD position in Gender, Technology and Medicine in Gothenburg, Sweden

The Division of Science, Technology and Society, part of The Department of Technology Management and Economics at Chalmers University of Technology, will hire a PhD student in Social Studies of Gender, Technology and Medicine. The research may be oriented towards areas such as gender, biomedical technologies and the body; gendered dimensions of medical treatments and medical engineering; the consequences of introducing and/or using gender-specific medical technologies in healthcare.

**Full-time temporary employment.** The position is limited to a maximum of 5 years.

**Application deadline: June 26th, 2022**

The STS division's research and education covers a wide area including Science and Technology Studies (STS), Gender and Technology, Sociology, and History of Science and Technology.

**Major responsibilities**

Your major responsibilities are to pursue your own doctoral studies (80% of full time). You are expected to develop your own scientific concepts and communicate the results of your research verbally and in writing. The position also includes departmental work (20% of full time), such as teaching in gender and technology on Chalmers' undergraduate level and similar subjects as well as doing administrative tasks.

**Qualifications**

To qualify as a PhD student, you must have completed a Master's degree corresponding to at least 240 higher education credits in a relevant field (MA or MSc) when starting the position. You may come from the social sciences, humanities, or engineering. Relevant degrees might be Science and Technology Studies, Gender Studies, Anthropology, Sociology, Theory of Science, or other related areas. Additional qualifications for applicants with a MSc (Science or Engineering) degree are a Master's thesis on a social scientifically themed topic and experience in working with qualitative methods. Prior study experience in social aspects of gender, technology and medicine is meritorious, but not mandatory.
The position requires sound verbal and written communication skills in English. If Swedish is not your native language, Chalmers offers Swedish courses.

Chalmers aims to actively improve our gender balance. We work broadly with equality projects, for example the GENIE Initiative on gender equality for excellence. Equality and diversity are substantial foundations in all activities at Chalmers.

**Application procedure**

The application should be marked with Ref 20220258 and written in English. The application should be sent electronically and be attached as pdf-files, as below:

**CV:** (Please name the document: CV, Family name, Ref. number)

- CV
- Other, for example previous employments or leadership qualifications and positions of trust.
- Two references that we can contact.

**Personal letter:** (Please name the document as: Personal letter, Family name, Ref. number)

1-3 pages where you:

- Introduce yourself
- Describe your previous experience of relevance for the position (e.g. education, thesis work and, if applicable, any other research activities)
- Describe your future goals and future research focus
- State your motivation for undertaking research training leading to a PhD, and that specifies what expertise at the Department is needed for carrying out your research.
Research plan

• Submit a research plan - not exceeding 9600 characters including spaces – describing the research project that you want to carry out during the PhD studies. The plan should include the proposed project’s purpose and research problem, as well as a short overview of the research field.

Other documents:

• Copies of bachelor and/or master’s thesis.

• Attested copies and transcripts of completed education, grades and other certificates, e.g. TOEFL test results.

Visit Chalmer’s webpage for more information and application guidelines.

For questions, please contact:
Lisa Lindén, incoming Associate Professor in Gender and Technology, Division of Science, Technology and Society, Technology Management and Economics,
lindenli@chalmers.se

Catharina Landström, Associate Professor and Head of Unit at the Division of Science, Technology and Society, Technology Management and Economics, catharina.landstrom@chalmers.se

3.5 PhD position in Ethics and Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden

The Department of Technology Management and Economics at Chalmers University of Technology will hire a PhD student in Ethics and Technology. The position is based at the Division of Science, Technology and Society. Our research and education covers a wide area including Ethics and Technology, Environmental Humanities, History of Science and
Technology, Science and Technology Studies (STS) as well as Gender and Technology, Sociology, and Valuation Studies.

Qualifications

To qualify as a PhD student, you must have completed a Master's degree (MA or MSc) when starting the position. You may come from the social sciences, humanities, or engineering with a strong interest in ethics and technology. Relevant degrees can be in for instance in Practical Philosophy, Political Science, Science and Technology Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Applied Ethics, or other related fields. Additional qualifications for applicants with a MSc (Science or Engineering) degree are a Master's thesis on a social scientifically themed topic and experience/interest in working with qualitative methods. Prior experiences in ethics through studies or work is meritorious, but not a mandatory.

The position requires sound verbal and written communication skills in English. If Swedish is not your native language, Chalmers offers Swedish courses.

Contract terms

Full-time temporary employment. The position is limited to a maximum of five years.

More information and guidelines for application.

Application deadline: 22 June 2022.

For questions, please contact:

Karl de Fine Licht, senior lecturer in ethics and technology, Technology Management and Economics

Email: karl.definelicht@chalmers.se

Catharina Landström, Associate Professor and Head of Unit at the Division of Science, Technology and Society, Technology Management and Economics

Email: catharina.landstrom@chalmers.se
4 Recent publications

In this section of the Newsletter, we collect information about recently published open-access articles, books, and lectures relevant to the field of the history of technology. If you want to share your work, please send the news to: newsletter@icohtec.org

4.1 Maurice Daumas Prize 2022 – Winning articles

The Maurice Daumas Prize is 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 last two consequent years. The prize winners were published in the Icohtec Newsletter April issue. We will publish the abstracts of the winning articles in this issue as an invitation to read high-quality research.

Shared 1st prize: Andrew Morris, “The joint labours of ingenious men”: John Smeaton’s Royal Society network and the Eddystone Lighthouse


The Industrial Enlightenment is widely thought to have been a period when “science” and “technology” became intimately intertwined. In his 1791 book on the building of the Eddystone lighthouse (completed in 1759), the English engineer John Smeaton praised the Royal Society for being more than a group of abstract theoreticians. This article looks at the fellows of Smeaton's Royal Society network who contributed knowledge, reports, specimens, and inventions solicited by Smeaton when he was working on this lighthouse project. I show, in line with other recent research on this topic, that the “artisans” of the 18th century did not confine themselves to practical know-how, and that “scholars” were not merely interested in abstract philosophising; instead, the figures I look at in this paper were hybrid knowers who possessed useful knowledge and book learning. I argue that the advice solicited by Smeaton during the building of the lighthouse was characterised not by exchanges between theory and practice, but by a combining of different types of knowledge from separate fields. A second feature of this intellectual co-operation is that it was not centred on a group of practical industrialists or engineers, but rather it was the
Royal Society that served as the common denominator, bringing all of the characters in our story into contact with each other. This is reflected in the subject matter involved, which was characteristic of the research focus of the virtuoso tradition in the 18th-century Royal Society. Smeaton's contact with this tradition was influenced by his friendships, his social activities, and, indirectly, by the way that the dissensions that occupied the Royal Society during the early 1780s impacted his retrospective account of the project.

*Shared 1st prize: Gemma Cirac-Claveras, “Re-imagining the space age: Early satellite development from Earthly fieldwork practice”*


Imagining space technology has been influenced by (usually American-centred) turning points in rocketry, launchers, space exploration and human spaceflight: principally in terms of techno-bureaucratic Big Science products embedded in Cold War rivalry, military and prestige objectives. While this representation is useful to understand many developments of the space age, it has tended to downplay the role of natural history practices of data collection and interpretation in the development of space technology. The notion of sociotechnical imaginary helps to reveal a more complex and complete understanding of the history of space technology. Between 1967 and 1973, the vision of the French remote-sensing satellite as both enabled by and an extension of aircraft photo-interpretation helped to shape scientific and technological expectations of remote-sensing technology. In turn, the practices, values, and visions of aircraft photo-interpreters informed the development of satellite remote-sensing work. In particular, the fieldwork-driven research mode, focusing on data collection and field observations, was an important part of satellite technology development—a tie which remains strong today. Approaching remote-sensing satellite technology through historical research not only suggests a particular way of imagining space technology within the tradition of field science practices, discourses, and history, but also allows us to reflect on the power and limitations of prevalent imaginaries to fully understand the space age and its place in history.


After the founding of the two German postwar states in 1949, their competition for legitimacy involved an astrocultural dimension. Supported by the US Military Board, West German technology enthusiasts took a leading role in realizing transnational rocketry networks. Their goal of a peaceful European future in the stars was met by skepticism in the East, where the Socialist FDJ youth organization criticized the involvement of former Nazi V-2 engineers. The rearmament of both states in 1955, however, reshaped political representations of the rocket. In the West, controversies arose about the character of rocket technology in general, whereas in the East, the Socialist Unity Party realized that a critical view of progress complicated technology education and propaganda. A mere two decades after the Second World War, East and West German astrocultural narratives gradually diverged from each other – ironically not despite, but because of, growing similarities in the dual use of spaceflight technologies.

**The members of the Prize Committee:**

**Maria Elvira Callapez**, Researcher. Dr., [Prize Committee Chairperson], CIUHT, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal.
University of California, Berkeley, USA
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**Antoni Roca-Rosell**, Dr.
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**Bertrand Guillaume**, Prof.
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**Eike-Christian Heine**, Dr.
Scholar in Residence
Deutsches Museum
Forschungsinstitut für Technik- und Wissenschaftsgeschichte
Hyeok Hweon Kang, Dr.
Washington University in St. Louis, USA

Laurent Heyberger, Dr.
Université de technologie de Belfort-Montbéliard (UTBM), France

Liliia Zemnukhova, PhD
Sociological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SI RAN), St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Lino Camprubí, Dr.
Universidad de Sevilla, Facultad de Filosofía, Spain

Mirjam Brusius, Dr.
German Historical Institute London
Email: m.brusius@ghil.ac.uk
Form for annual membership renewals and registration of new members

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

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

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If your bank requires to fill the address of the account holder, use: Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT), Department für Geschichte, Neuer Zirkel 3, D-76131 Karlsruhe, GERMANY

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

Stefan Poser, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT), Department für Geschichte, Neuer Zirkel 3, D-76131 Karlsruhe, GERMANY

After filling the form, please send by email to Viktor Pál, ICOHTEC Treasurer, at viktor.paal(at)gmail.com and Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC at stefan.poser(at)kit.edu.