

ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

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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

1.1 ICOHTEC 49th Symposium in Ostrava: Reminder of the second part

The International Committee for the History of Technology's 49th Symposium is hosted by the University of Ostrava, Czech Republic. Since it will take place online it is scheduled in two slots: **September 24th – 25th and 15th – October 16 2022.**

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 following years. Which decisions are we 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 [final program](#) and the [book of abstracts](#) are available on the conference website.

For more information, [visits the conference website](#).

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](mailto:viktor.paal@gmail.com) and Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC, [stefan.poser\(at\)kit.edu](mailto:stefan.poser@kit.edu), in order to update our list of members.

2 Call for Papers

2.1 CFP: Experiences of Deviancy and Deviant Experiences

Proposal DL 13 January 2023.

The concepts of deviance and deviancy once anchored a great many social scientific and humanistic studies. Beginning in the 1990s, however, scholars began to question their usefulness, with some declaring the study of deviance a dead field. Nevertheless, historians have found the theme of deviance productive, contributing to the study of a number of social processes, including marginalisation, pathologisation, social control, segregation, enhancement and criminalisation. What is clear is that to study those behaviours, thoughts, feelings, and people conventionally deemed deviant is to also study how societies define and enforce normality. The deviant thus has offered a way to defamiliarise the normal and, as result, provided insights into how the mundane itself is made.

Is it possible then to revisit the study of social deviance in a fresh way? Recent interest in the history of human subjectivity offers one possible way to do so. Studies in areas like the history of emotions, the history of persuasion, the history of madness, and the history of sexuality – to name just a few – have increasingly tried to emphasise the experiences and agency of historical actors. This workshop takes its inspiration from this research and focuses on the history of experiencing deviance. By critically assessing the use of the concept of deviance in historical discourse, the workshop also aims at evaluating the relevance of the study of deviance today.

This workshop invites scholars at all levels to consider different forms and experiences of deviance. Proposals for papers are welcome. Topics might include:

- Experiences outside conventional norms
- The experiences of being labelled and treated as a deviant
- Experiences of deviance on the part of those enforcing social norms
- Interpreting biographical experiences (lives) of the so-called deviants by experts

- Experiences of institutions of social control

For individual paper proposals, please submit a title, 200-word abstract, and contact details to Johanna Annola (Tampere University), Greg Eghigian (Penn State University) and Katariina Parhi (Tampere University) at outsiders.outcasts.eccentrics@gmail.com **by 13 January 2023**. Accepted contributors will be notified by 31 January 2023.

The workshop will be organised in **Tampere University, Finland**. The travel and accommodation costs of the participants will be covered. The workshop will result in an edited volume by a high-impact publisher.

The workshop is hosted by the [Academy of Finland Centre of Excellence in the History of Experiences \(HEX\)](https://research.tuni.fi/hex/). HEX focuses on historical experiences, historical explanations and historical knowledge, and their place in the current world. The conceptual and methodological innovation of HEX is the renewal of how experience is defined and used as a key part of historical analysis. <https://research.tuni.fi/hex/>

Contact Info:

Johanna Annola (Tampere University)

Greg Eghigian (Penn State University)

Katariina Parhi (Tampere University)

Contact Email:

outsiders.outcasts.eccentrics@gmail.com

3 Prizes and grants

3.1 History of Science Exhibiting Excellence Prize 2022

The BSHS Outreach and Engagement Committee is pleased to announce its 2022 [Exhibiting Excellence Prize](#).

Eligibility

The competition is open for any public exhibition that deals with the history of science, the history of technology, or the history of medicine. Entries are welcome from institutions in any country and exhibits may be permanent or temporary. Eligible exhibits must use artefacts or places of some kind and this may include buildings or locations, pictures, instruments, objects and books. Web-based exhibits are not eligible for the prize; we run a separate competition – the Ayrton Prize – for these.

The closing date is **11th November 5pm UK (UTC+1)**. The Prize recognises exhibits which opened in 2022 and should go live no later than that date to enable judging. There will be two prizes one for large (£50k and over) and one for small exhibitions (under £50k). The winning exhibits will be the subject of a special feature in the BSHS's Viewpoint magazine.

Criteria

The main criterion for judging this prize is audience experience and therefore the judges will consider:

1. **Originality:** does the exhibit speak to current scholarly concerns within HSTM, HPS and/or STS? Does it present the audience with something new? Does it challenge preconceptions?
2. **Clarity:** is the purpose or aim of this exhibit clear? Has it clearly identified what it wants to tell the audience about the history of science, technology or medicine? Is it easy to follow?
3. **Design:** is the exhibit attractive and engaging? What makes this exhibit stand out from other exhibits? Does the design complement the subject matter?
4. **Learning:** does it cater for its intended audience well? How accessible is the exhibit to a range of different audiences? Does the exhibit encourage audiences to be reflective about the role of HSTM?

Judging

Please submit an entry form and supporting materials by 11th November 5pm UK (UTC+1) to outreach@bshs.org.uk. Supporting materials can either be up to 12 photographs of the

exhibition or up to a 10-minute video. Whenever possible the judges will visit the exhibition or nominate a member of the Society to do so. Any further queries should be addressed to outreach@bshs.org.uk.

4 Open positions

4.1 PhD position in Eindhoven: Brazilian histories and futures of soy & (un)sustainability

Application DL **October 28th, 2022**.

Would you like to do historical research while contributing to more inclusive, sustainable futures? And are you interested in doing so for the case of deforestation in Brazil and the Dutch nitrogen crisis, connected by the travels of soybeans? Then apply for this PhD position at the [TU/e History Lab](#), co-hosted by [the Athena Institute](#) (VU Amsterdam) and the Soy Observatory (UFFS, Brazil).

Since the 1970s, accelerating soy production in Brazil has been associated with large-scale deforestation, land-grabbing, child labor and more. Meanwhile soy-based intensive animal farming in the Netherlands came with a 4-decades-long national nitrogen crisis (currently a key public controversy), public health hazards, greenhouse gas emissions and animal welfare problems. Yet regional sustainability histories and futures are predominantly studied in geographical isolation. The research project **SOY STORIES** investigates how we can study these region's sustainability histories as connected, and draws implications for thinking about (likewise connected) inclusive sustainability futures.

You will investigate Brazilian soy-related sustainability histories and their relations to Dutch sustainability histories; how these inform current thinking about solutions that are for relevant sustainability challenges in Brazil; and how historical knowledge can become actionable for the development of more inclusive sustainable future imaginaries (i.e. addressing both regions).

Job requirements

- A masters' degree in history or another relevant field, e.g. science and technology studies (STS), geography, anthropology, area studies, etc..
- Practical experience with qualitative (historical) research methods, such as (historical) ethnography, (historical) document analysis, (life history) interviewing.
- Preferably: experience with transdisciplinary research approaches.
- The ability to work independently and in a team.
- Very good organizational, communicative and connective skills; you will collaborate with a wide variety of academic and societal groups.
- A strong track record and good research skills, writing skills and presentation skills.
- A strong command of the Portuguese and English language (C1 level); knowledge of Dutch (or willingness to learn) is an advantage.
- Willingness to spend one day per week (Tuesday) at VU Amsterdam

Conditions of employment

- Full-time employment for four years, with an intermediate evaluation (go/no-go) after nine months. You will spend max. 15% of your employment on teaching tasks.
- Salary and benefits (such as a pension scheme, paid pregnancy and maternity leave, partially paid parental leave) in accordance with the Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Universities.
- A year-end bonus of 8.3% and annual vacation pay of 8%.
- High-quality training programs and other support to grow into a self-aware, autonomous scientific researcher. At TU/e we challenge you to take charge of your own learning process.
- An excellent technical infrastructure, on-campus children's day care and sports facilities.
- An allowance for commuting, working from home and internet costs.
- A Staff Immigration Team and a tax compensation scheme (the 30% facility) for international candidates.

More information

Do you recognize yourself in this profile and would you like to know more about the project? Please contact prof.dr. Erik van der Vleuten at e.b.a.v.d.vleuten@tue.nl.

You can also contact Najat Loiazizi, HR advisor, e-mail: n.loiazizi@tue.nl or 040 247 8933.

For more information and submission, visit the [application system](#).

The application should include a:

- Cover letter in which you describe your motivation and qualifications for the position.
- Curriculum vitae, including a list of your publications and the contact information of three references.

The vacancy will remain open until the position is filled.

4.2 PhD position in Amsterdam: Dutch histories and futures of soy & (un)sustainability

Application DL **October 28th 2022**.

Would you like to do historical research while contributing to more inclusive, sustainable futures? And are you interested in doing so for the case of the Dutch nitrogen crisis and deforestation in Brazil, connected by the travels of soybeans? Then apply for this PhD position at the Athena Institute (VU), co-hosted by the History Lab (TUE) and the soy observatory (UFFS, Brazil).

The research project SOY STORIES investigates how we can study these region's sustainability histories as connected, and draws implications for thinking about (likewise connected) inclusive sustainability futures.

Your duties

You will investigate Dutch soy-related sustainability histories and their relations to Brazilian sustainability histories; how these inform current thinking about solutions that

are for relevant sustainability challenges in the Netherlands; and how historical knowledge can become actionable for the development of more inclusive sustainable future imaginaries.

You will do so in collaboration with a PhD candidate based at History Lab of TU Eindhoven, who will study Brazilian soy-related sustainability histories and their relations to Dutch sustainability histories, and you will collaborate with the Soy Observatory and the Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul (UFFS) in Brazil. Furthermore, you work with a wide range of societal partners to enrich historiography and to imagine more inclusive sustainable futures. The project entails travels to Brazil.

Requirements

- A masters' degree in history or another relevant field, e.g. science and technology studies (STS), geography, anthropology, area studies, etc.
- Practical experience with qualitative (historical) research methods, such as (historical) ethnography, (historical) document analysis, (life history) interviewing
- Preferably: experience with transdisciplinary research approaches
- The ability to work independently and in a team
- Very good organizational, communicative and connective skills; you will collaborate with a wide variety of academic and societal groups
- A strong track record and good research skills, writing skills and presentation skills
- An strong command of the Dutch and English language; knowledge of Portuguese (or willingness to learn) is an advantage
- Willingness to spend one day per week (Thursday) at TU Eindhoven

What are we offering?

- A challenging position in a socially involved organization. The salary will be in accordance with university regulations for academic personnel and amounts €2,541 (PhD) per month during the first year and increases to €3,247 (PhD) per month during the fourth year, based on a full-time employment. The job profile: is based on the university job ranking system and is vacant for at least 1 FTE.

- The appointment will initially be for a period of one year with a possible extension conditional upon assessment of adequate functioning. The maximum duration of the appointment is 4 years.
- a maximum of 41 days of annual leave based on full-time employment,
- 8% holiday allowance and 8.3% end-of-year bonus,
- solid pension scheme (ABP),
- possibility to save holiday hours, for sabbatical leave,
- child daycare facilities available on campus

[About Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam](#)

The ambition of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam is clear: to contribute to a better world through outstanding education and ground-breaking research. We strive to be a university where personal development and commitment to society play a leading role. A university where people from different disciplines and backgrounds collaborate to achieve innovations and to generate new knowledge. Our teaching and research encompass the entire spectrum of academic endeavor – from the humanities, the social sciences and the natural sciences through to the life sciences and the medical sciences.

Athena Institute, Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences

The position is offered within the Athena Institute, Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences. The institute's mission is to study and design interfaces between science and society to contribute both to a deeper understanding of innovation processes as well as a responsible implementation of research and innovation in society. Athena's research program amongst other focuses on analysing complex global health challenges, designing interventions and conducting participatory monitoring and evaluation research. The section presently has a position vacant for a Postdoc/Lecturer.

For more information about the [Athena Institute](#) visit our website.

Application

For more information and application, visit the [application page](#).

Closing deadline: 28-10-2022, or when a suitable candidate has been found. A first round of interviews will take place between the 31st of October and the 3rd of November.

The Brazilian counterpart to this position hosted by the TU Eindhoven History Lab is advertised on the TUE vacancy website.

If you have any questions regarding this vacancy, you may contact:

Name: Dr. Evelien de Hoop, E-mail: e.de.hoop@vu.nl

4.3 Postdoc position in Amsterdam: Innovating Transdisciplinary Research

Would you like to investigate how historical knowledge can be rendered actionable for the development of more inclusive and sustainable futures, in interaction with diverse societal partners? And would you like to study how an understanding of sustainability challenges' transnational entanglements across the globe can further help foster such futures? Then apply for this postdoc position at the [Athena Institute of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam](#).

Job description

The stories we tell about the past and the futures we envision are interrelated. Hence historical research has a role to play in addressing present-day problems and realizing more inclusive, sustainable futures. However, neither the field of history, nor transdisciplinary sustainability research (which seeks to contribute to such inclusive and sustainable futures) has adequately explored this potential.

Furthermore, many of the sustainability challenges we face here today are tightly intertwined with sustainability challenges elsewhere. Think of the controversies around lithium and graphite mining at various sites in the global South to facilitate the European transition towards electric automobility. Or consider the closure of coal mines in north-west Europe, resulting in the implosion mining communities and livelihoods, and the socio-ecological challenges emerging from the simultaneous start-up of coal mining in Latin America.

Your duties

This postdoc position will focus on developing transdisciplinary research approaches for historical and transnational research purposes to engage with the transnational and temporal dimensions of present-day sustainability challenges, with the aim of fostering more inclusive sustainable futures. You will do so by taking part in a variety of projects. One of these projects, named SOY STORIES, will form the backbone of your postdoc position, which is a project on sustainability challenges in Brazil and the Netherlands which are interconnected through soy. In Brazil, these include large-scale deforestation, land-grabbing, child labor, and more; in the Netherlands, soy-based intensive animal farming gave rise to a 4-decades-long national nitrogen crisis (currently subject to heated debate), public health hazards, greenhouse gas emissions and animal welfare problems. In this project, you will facilitate collaboration with societal partners, both in Brazil and in the Netherlands, and collaborate intensively with two PhD candidates who study the connected Dutch and Brazilian histories of these challenges.

This project carried out through a collaboration between the Athena Institute, with its expertise in transdisciplinary, transformation-oriented research (VU), the TU Eindhoven History Lab, with expertise in transnational historical research, and the Soy Observatory and Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul in Brazil. Publications will focus on conceptual and methodological innovation developed and evaluated during the project, and/or on the ways in which such innovation can inform case-specific soy-related sustainability futures.

SOY STORIES will run throughout the duration of the position, and take up ~20% of your time. In addition, you will spend ~30% of your time on methodological and conceptual innovation in interrelated transdisciplinary research projects at the Athena Institute that fit your expertise and interests, and you will be teaching in courses taught by the Athena Institute (~50% of your time). Your work will be supported by a wider team of committed staff involved in this project and beyond.

Requirements

- A PhD in transdisciplinary sustainability research, history or another relevant field, such as science and technology studies (STS), geography, anthropology, sociology, etc.
- Experience with transdisciplinary research approaches
- Preferably: practical experience with qualitative (historical) research methods, such as (historical ethnography, (historical) document analysis, (life history) interviewing
- The ability to work independently and in a team
- Very good organizational, communicative and connective skills; you will collaborate with a wide variety of academic and societal groups
- A strong track record and good research skills, writing skills and presentation skills
- An strong command of the Dutch and English language. Some knowledge of Portuguese (or willingness to learn) is an advantage

What are we offering?

- A challenging position in a socially involved organization. On full-time basis the remuneration amounts to a minimum gross monthly salary of €2,960 (scale 10)
- and a maximum €4,670 (scale 10), depending on your education and experience. The job profile: is based on the university job ranking system and is vacant for at least 1 FTE.
- The appointment will initially be for a period of one year with a possible extension conditional upon assessment of adequate functioning. The maximum duration of the appointment is 4 years.
- Additionally, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers excellent fringe benefits and various schemes and regulations to promote a good work/life balance, such as:
 - a maximum of 41 days of annual leave based on full-time employment,
 - 8% holiday allowance and
 - 8.3% end-of-year bonus, solid pension scheme (ABP),
 - possibility to save holiday hours, for sabbatical leave,

- child daycare facilities available on campus

Application

Closing deadline: 28-10-2022, or when a suitable candidate has been found. A first round of interviews will take place between the 31st of October and the 3rd of November.

Applications received by e-mail will not be processed. Please visit [the application page for more information and submission](#).

If you have any questions regarding this vacancy, you may contact:

Assistant Professor, Dr. Evelien de Hoop. E-mail: e.de.hoop@vu.nl

4.4 Postdoc position in Gothenburg: STS, gender, and medical technologies

Application DL **December 1st, 2022**.

[The Division of Science, Technology and Society \(STS\)](#) at Chalmers University of Technology, will hire a postdoc in Social Studies of Science and Technology, with a specialisation in Gender and Medical Technologies. You do not need to have an engineering background to apply; applicants from the social sciences are encouraged. Applicants are given the opportunity to design their own postdoc research plan within the specialisation of gender and medical technologies. Example of areas might be 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. An orientation towards ethnographic research methods is encouraged. Relevant theoretical perspectives might be, for example, feminist technoscience studies, intersectionality and posthumanism.

Major responsibilities

Your major responsibilities is to undertake your own research, in dialogue with Associate Professor Lisa Lindén (80%). The position also includes departmental work, 20% of full time, such as teaching in gender and technology and similar subjects.

Qualifications

To qualify for this position you must have completed your PhD degree when starting the position, awarded no more than three years prior to the application deadline. You may come from the social sciences, humanities, or engineering. Relevant PhD degrees and/or specialisations might be Science and Technology Studies, Gender Studies, Anthropology, Sociology or Media Studies.

Contract terms

This postdoc position is a full-time temporary employment for two years.

Application procedure

The application should be marked with Ref 20220486 and written in English. The application should be sent electronically and be attached as PDF-files, as below. Maximum size for each file is 40 MB. Please note that the system does not support Zip files.

CV: (Please name the document as: CV, Surname, Ref. number) including:

- CV, include complete list of publications
- Previous teaching and pedagogical experiences
- 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 research fields and main research results
- Describe your future goals and future research focus

Other documents:

- Attested copies of completed education, grades and other certificates.

Research plan:

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

For more information and to submit your application, visit [Chalmers' webpage](#).

For questions, please contact:

Lisa Lindén, Associate Professor in Gender and Technology, Division of Science, Technology and Society, Technology Management and Economics,

Email: lisa.linden@chalmers.se

4.5 PhD position in Gothenburg: STS, Gender and Medical Technologies: reminder

Applications DL is **November 1st, 2022**.

The [Division of Science, Technology and Society \(STS\) at Chalmers University of Technology](#), will hire a PhD student in Social Studies of Science and Technology, with a specialisation in Gender and Medical Technologies. Relevant research fields may be science and technology studies, gender studies, sociology, anthropology or media studies. Relevant theoretical perspectives might be, for example, feminist technoscience studies, intersectionality and posthumanism. The STS division's research and education covers a wide area including Science and Technology Studies (STS), Gender and Technology and History of Science and Technology.

Contract terms

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

For more information and details instructions for application document, visit [Chalmers' job announcements](#).

For questions, please contact:

Lisa Lindén, Associate Professor in Gender and Technology, Division of Science,
Technology and Society, Technology Management and Economics,

Email: lisa.linden@chalmers.se

**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):

- An individual. Rate: (30€ or 40 \$ or equivalent) per year*
- A student. Rate: (30 € or 40 \$ or equivalent for two years)*
- An institution. Rate: (75 € or 100 \$ or equivalent) per year*
- A library. Rate: (Europe: 36 €, Overseas 39 € or 52 \$) per year*

Tick the years of membership to be paid: 2021 2022 2023 2024

I submit the total amount: _____

Your first name and surname: _____

Email: _____

Postal address: _____

Tick the method of your payment:

- Through international money transfer: Make international money transfer to:*

"ICOHTEC" at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany):

IBAN:DE44430400360390259000; BIC: COBADEFFXXX

*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@gmail.com and Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC at stefan.poser@kit.edu.