



# NEWSLETTER

OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY

No. 103, n.s., April 2004

## SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Right from the beginning of my term as SHOT secretary, I knew that one of the easiest things about the job would be following in Bill Leslie's footsteps. Ever since our official transition in January, Bill has been an invaluable help with our fledgling efforts out here in Iowa, patiently answering our seemingly countless questions and giving support. At the same time, one of the hardest things about this job is trying to follow Bill's model. How can my newsletter columns hope to continue his seamless blend of updates on SHOT news, discussion of society concerns, and insights into our field, expressed with grace and humor? And how can I ever match his warm and witty performances as emcee of our SHOT banquets? I may need to investigate subcontracting out to Jay Leno.

If Bill Leslie is a hard act to follow, keep in mind that Mary Ann Myer is practically impossible. Luckily, we have someone ready to continue Mary Ann's incredible record of efficiency, thoroughness, and good humor. Our new SHOT Administrative Assistant is Cynthia D. Bennet, who earned her master's degree in history from Iowa State University in 2001. Her thesis, "Photo Finish: The Memorialization of Death Through Photography in Nineteenth-century America," explored the role of pictures in Victorian mourning and memory rituals. Cynthia has been doing part-time historical research for legal cases and teaching both American history and American literature at central Iowa colleges. She also developed an oral history project for the Ames (IA) Historical Society, recording local citizens' homefront memories from WWII. With this

broad background in public history, history instruction, and historical research, Cynthia is beautifully suited to understand the varied interests and needs of SHOT members. Equally important, she has already saved my sanity with her common sense, cheerfulness, and energy. Far from being daunted by the prospect of receiving seventeen boxes of files and papers from Bill's office in Baltimore, she jumped right in and, with her fabulous organizational skills, has our ISU SHOT office up and well-running. I know that a number of you have already exchanged e-mails with Cynthia or talked with her on the phone, and she says that she is looking forward to meeting SHOT members in person at our annual meetings.

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#### For Change of Address, Membership Information, and Journal Delivery Queries

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#### SHOT Newsletter Editorial Policies, Advertising Rates, and Submission Deadlines

The SHOT *Newsletter* is published quarterly in April, July, October, and January and is sent to all individual members of the Society. Items for inclusion will be published **if received by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous month**. Please note that material for the newsletter may be submitted via electronic mail. Non-members and institutions may receive the *Newsletter* by separate subscription for \$15 per year. The *Newsletter* can also be read at the SHOT website.

Readers should verify closing dates and other information provided by institutions and sponsors; the editor and SHOT are not responsible for changes or typographical errors. Advertising for books, journals, and other matters related to the interests of the Society and its members is accepted if received by the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the previous month.

**Advertising Rates:** Full page (7-1/2" x 9-1/2"), \$200;  
 Half page (7-1/2"x5" or 3"x 9-1/2"), \$150;  
 Quarter page (3" x 5"), \$100

*The SHOT logo was created by Brickworks of London*

Speaking of which, I know that all of us are eagerly anticipating an exciting meeting next fall in Amsterdam. An important "heads-up" notice here – it looks as if our registration and conference hotel deadlines this year may need to be a bit earlier than usual, August 1, due to some details in our contract with the hotel. So whether you're planning a well-deserved long vacation over the summer or an intensive spell of burying yourself in an archive, please remember to make a note on your calendar to arrange your plans. We'll have further details in our next newsletter, as usual, but if you'll be away from your mailbox, don't panic. It is, of course, now possible to find all this information online. Our wonderful Amsterdam local arrangements committee will be setting up a special annual-meeting website (see details elsewhere in this newsletter), and you should be able to connect to this conveniently from our own SHOT website.

And speaking of which, I'm very pleased to relate that SHOT has hired our long-term member David Morton to initiate the process of redesigning our website. This operation will be gradual, so don't expect a radical new look when you log on tomorrow, but we're well on the way to building an improved web presence for the history of technology.

Many other exciting events have been developing on the SHOT front in recent months. Our president, David Hounshell, has been leading efforts on the Executive Council's plan for new initiatives to broaden SHOT's outreach and extend our scholarship. Along those lines, Vice-President Rosalind Williams has been doing a splendid job of organizing the SHOT writing workshop planned for this summer on Cape Cod – see below for an update - wish I could be there! Our treasurer, Richard Hirsh, has been keeping a sharp eye on our financial picture, as always. For those of you who've sent in Campaign for SHOT pledges over recent months, many thanks! For those of you who may have been procrastinating, once you send in your contribution, you'll receive a heartfelt letter of appreciation on

our brand-new, multi-color ISU-office SHOT stationery – how's that for an incentive? Seriously, member support is crucial to our future, and as they say on PBS pledge breaks, we can't do it without you.

Whenever anyone asked me why I decided to undertake this job as SHOT secretary (no, not for the glamour), I usually explained that it was because I genuinely enjoy being involved with SHOT, and that was because of its members. Over these first few months, I've had the pleasure of receiving encouragement from so many of you. While my e-mail box has already overflowed its quota a few times, it's a pleasure to notice familiar names as senders and to see important subject lines – and a very nice change from spam offering medications I don't need or dubious offers of “free money!!!” Many thanks for the kindness and patience that you've shown me so far, and I look forward to many more months of working with SHOT!

Amy Sue Bix  
Iowa State University

## SOCIETY NEWS

### SHOT ANNUAL MEETING

#### AMSTERDAM

Hosted by the Dutch Foundation for the History of Technology (SHT), the SHOT Annual Meeting 2004 will take place October 7-10 in Amsterdam. Amsterdam is one of Europe's most popular cities for visitors who experience both its rich history and contemporary cosmopolitan (post)modern character. Our meeting location, the Renaissance Amsterdam Hotel, is in the center of the city on one of the oldest canals in Amsterdam, and within walking distance of Amsterdam's Centraal Station. The hotel and conference center was originally built in the second half of the

seventeenth century as the New Lutheran Evangelical Church with its famous dome. Today, the *Cupola Hall* of the former church—famous for its good acoustics—serves as the main auditorium where we will also have our book display and banquet. The central location of our hotel is convenient for visits to the many museums and other sites in which we expect conference participants will be interested. Excursions have been planned in and outside of Amsterdam to sites of particular interest to historians of technology. Hotel website: [www.renaissancehotels.com/amstrd](http://www.renaissancehotels.com/amstrd).

Rooms will be available at the conference hotel. Alternative hotels conveniently located near the conference venue have also been reserved. More details and registration information for the SHOT Annual Meeting will be posted April 15<sup>th</sup> on the Foundation's website [www.histech.nl](http://www.histech.nl). The Local Arrangements Committee looks forward to welcoming SHOT 2004 participants in Amsterdam.

### SHOT PRIZES FOR 2004

The **IEEE Life Members' Prize in Electrical History** was established by the IEEE Life Members, who fund the prize, and is administered by the Society for the History of Technology. The prize recognizes the best paper in electrical history published during the previous year, in this case 2003. Any historical paper published in a learned journal or magazine is eligible if it treats the art or engineering aspects of electrotechnology and its practitioners. Electrotechnology encompasses power, electronics, telecommunications, and computer science. The committee invites submissions for the 2003 prize. Please send a copy of the paper to EACH member of the prize committee by **1 May 2004**. The prize consists of a cash award of \$500 and a certificate. The 2004 committee members are David Hochfelder, chair, Mary Ann Hellrigel, and David Mindell.

The **Samuel Eleazar and Rose Tartakow Levinson Prize** is awarded for a single-authored, unpublished essay in the history of technology that explicitly examines in some detail a technology or technological device/process within the framework of social or intellectual history. It is intended for younger scholars and new entrants into the profession. Manuscripts should be in English and of a length suitable for publication as a journal article. The closing date for nominations is **1 May 2004**. The award consists of \$400 and a certificate. The 2004 committee members are Chris McKenna, chair, Patrick McCray, and Henrik Björck. Check the SHOT website for further details.

The Society for the History of Technology invites applications for the **Brooke Hindle Post-Doctoral Fellowship** in the History of Technology for 2004-2005. The award is for \$10,000 and may be used, as further detailed on the SHOT website, for any purpose connected with research or writing in the history of technology for a period of not less than four months between 1 September 2004 and 31 August 2005. The Fellowship honors the contributions of Brooke Hindle to the work of the Society for the History of Technology, and is made possible thanks the generosity of the family. Applications must be made in written English and submitted to the chair of the Fellowship Committee either by mail or email (no faxes will be accepted), to be received by **1 May 2004**. Committee members are Bev Sauer, chair, Karin Bijsterveld, and Ross Bassett. Check the SHOT website for further details.

Please note that the address printed on the prize flyer for Karin Bijsterveld was incorrect. Her correct contact information is:

Dr. Karin Bijsterveld/ Associate professor  
Department of Technology & Society Studies  
Faculty of Arts & Culture  
Maastricht University  
P.O. Box 616  
6200 MD Maastricht  
The Netherlands  
k.bijsterveld@tss.unimaas.nl

SHOT's **International Scholars** program was established to encourage greater participation in SHOT by scholars outside North America, to improve communication among historians of technology around the world, and to foster an international community of scholars in our field. The program is also intended to support historians just beginning their careers by providing them recognition in their own countries. Nominees must reside outside the United States, and the selection committee gives priority to junior scholars. Those selected for a two-year term receive a subscription to *Technology and Culture*, and are invited to attend SHOT's meetings. In addition, they will be asked to prepare a report or review essay on current developments in the history of technology in their country, or of their own work, for presentation of publication by the Society. The International Scholars Committee asks all SHOT members to help identify qualified individuals for this program for 2004-2005. Self-nomination is also encouraged. Committee members are Dong-Won Kim, chair, Takehiko Hashimoto, and Aristotle Tympas. Check the SHOT website for further details.

SHOT **Travel Grants** provide travel assistance to the meeting in Amsterdam in October 2004. Applicants should know that SHOT travel grants are not intended to provide the full costs associated with attending the society's annual meeting; they are intended as an encouragement, not a full subsidy. The program is focused on graduate students, independent scholars, and young professionals just beginning their careers who plan

to attend the annual meeting. Others who are eligible include the Society's International Scholars. The travel fund was initiated by Hugh Aitken in 1988 and has been supported by individual SHOT members, royalties from two anthologies of articles from *Technology and Culture*, and generous contributions from the Dibner Fund. Additional funds come from the National Science Foundation. The Committee should have applications by **1 June 2004**. The Secretary will notify recipients by approximately 1 July 2004. Committee members are Mary Thomas, chair, Hans Weinberger, and Rayvon Fouche. Check the SHOT website for further details.

### OTHER AWARDS

The **Society of Automotive Historians (SAH)** announces a competition for its 2004 Student Paper Award. The Society of Automotive Historians is the world's only organization devoted exclusively to the history of motor vehicles. The Society is an affiliate member of the American Historical Association. Founded in 1969, its international membership of over 900 includes published authors, writers for major motor magazines, persons on university faculties, librarians, archivists, and directors and staff of museums and historical societies. The primary purpose of the Society is to encourage research, preservation, recording, compilation and publication of historical facts concerning the worldwide development of the automobile and motor vehicle industry, plus closely related subjects. The Society publishes the bimonthly *SAH Journal*, which carries short articles, book reviews, and news of members. It also produces the *Automotive History Review*, published twice a year (some issues are peer-reviewed), which features articles on automotive history, the majority of which are based on original research.

A number of publication awards are presented annually by the Society. These include the Cugnot

(for the best book in the field of automotive history published during the previous year); the Benz (for the best periodical article or series), and the Brigham (for the magazine with the best treatment of automotive history over all issues during the previous year). In order to encourage research and writing efforts among university students in the area of automotive history, the Society in 2004 will confer its annual award for the best student paper in the auto history field. Persons submitting papers must be enrolled at educational institutions (upper-class undergraduate or graduate level) at the time of submission. This competition is international in scope, but papers must be in the English language. Papers already published or scheduled for publication will not be accepted.

Manuscripts should not exceed 10,000 words, and should be double-spaced. An abstract is requested. Submissions should emphasize in-depth research, with adequate citations of the sources utilized. Originality of ideas is important. Diagrams, graphs or photographs may be included. An original and four copies must be submitted. Possible subjects include, but are not limited to, historical aspects of automobile companies and their leaders, regulation of the auto industry, financial and economic aspects of the industry, highway development, environmental matters, and automotive marketing, design, engineering and safety.

Submissions will be judged using the criteria of research, organization, writing style and documentation. A cover letter should be included stating the student's address, school, program, advisor, and stage in studies. The student should indicate how the paper submitted will relate to his or her professional future. Submissions must be postmarked by **1 June 2004**. All papers submitted will be acknowledged. The winning paper will be published in the Society's *Automotive History Review*. The winner will be notified in August 2004. The award will consist of a plaque and a cash prize of \$500. At the discretion of the Committee an honorable mention award also may be given.

Submissions should be sent to:  
Sinclair Powell, Chair, Student Paper Award  
Committee, SAH  
8 Ruthven Place  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2612 USA  
Phone: 734-769-1188  
Fax: 734-769-2858  
Email: [sinclairp@msn.com](mailto:sinclairp@msn.com)

## FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

### CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GRANTS-IN-AID

The **Victor and Joy Wouk Grant-in-Aid Program**—new in 2003—offers research assistance up to \$2000 for work in the Papers of Victor Wouk in the Caltech Archives. The Maurice A. Biot Archives Fund and other designated funds offer research assistance up to \$1500 to use the collections of the Caltech Archives. For all funds, applications will be accepted from students working towards a graduate degree or from established scholars. Graduate students must have completed one year of study prior to receiving grant-in-aid. For the Biot award, preference will be given to those working in the history of technology, especially in the fields of aeronautics, applied mechanics and geophysics. No applicant may receive more than two awards, and awards will not be given to the same applicant in consecutive 12-month periods.

Grants-in-aid may be used for travel and living expenses, for photocopy and other photo-reproduction costs related to the research project, and for miscellaneous research expenses. Funds may not be used for the purchase of computer software or hardware.

For further information on holdings and online resources, please consult the Archives' Web page:

<http://archives.caltech.edu>. Application forms may be downloaded from the web site (through the link "Grants-in-Aid") or may be obtained by email or by writing to the Archivist at the letterhead address. Applications will be reviewed quarterly, on January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year.

### BAKKEN LIBRARY and MUSEUM

The **Bakken Library and Museum** offers Research Travel Grants for the purpose of facilitating research in its collection of books, journals, manuscripts, prints, and instruments. Up to a maximum of \$500 (domestic) and \$750 (foreign) are available to help researchers to defray the expenses of travel, subsistence, and other direct costs of conducting research at The Bakken. The minimum period of residence is one week. Application may be made anytime during the calendar year 2004 for research to be conducted during 2004. For more information and application guidelines, please contact:

Elizabeth Ihrig, Librarian  
The Bakken Library and Museum  
3537 Zenith Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55416  
Phone: 612-926-3878 ext. 227  
Fax: 612-927-7265  
Email: [Ihrig@thebakken.org](mailto:Ihrig@thebakken.org)

### NEEDHAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE Cambridge, UK

*Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Research  
Fellowships for US-based Scholars at the Needham  
Research Institute, Cambridge, UK.*

The Needham Research Institute (NRI), home of the Science and Civilisation in China project, provides scholars with excellent facilities for research into the history of science, technology, and medicine in East Asia. Funds granted by the Andrew W. Mellon

foundation make it possible for the NRI to offer a number of one-semester fellowships tenable at the institute for US-based scholars and researchers working within the broad field of the history of science, technology, and medicine in East Asia.

Preference will normally be given to scholars who wish to visit the Institute at times other than summer vacation. Applications must include CV and a description of the work that will be done during the period of the fellowship, together with two letters of recommendation from qualified persons. The project description should indicate why it would be particularly helpful for the researcher to be able to work at the NRI. Applications may be made with a view to taking up fellowships from autumn 2004 to the end of 2005, and informal advance enquiries by email are encouraged. **The deadline for receipt of applications is 15 May 2004.**

The remit of these fellowships is intended to be as wide as is necessary to maximise the contribution they can make to the development of what is a varied and lively field, however:

(1) Recipients should normally be engaged in research using primary materials in East Asian languages. This is not however intended to exclude candidates who are also using western-language materials to carry out research into contacts between China and other countries.

(2) Recipients must either hold academic posts in a US university, or be registered for a research degree in a US university

The fellowships will meet the costs of economy air travel to the UK, together with a grant adequate to cover living costs in Cambridge for one semester and some support for the research expenses and travel in the UK. While these fellowships are primarily intended to fund one-

semester visits, under exceptional circumstances they may be held for longer periods. The fellowships will be awarded without distinction of gender, ethnic origin, or other factors irrelevant to scholarly merit. Other things being equal, preference will be given to proposals from scholars at an earlier stage of their careers, but others should not feel precluded from making applications. Please send applications and enquiries to:

**The Administrator  
Needham Research Institute  
8 Sylvester Road  
Cambridge CB3 9AF  
UK  
Email: [admin@nri.org.uk](mailto:admin@nri.org.uk)**

Details of the NRI may be found at <http://www.nri.org.uk>

### ***EXTRA!!***

The SHOT *Newsletter* is your newsletter and a way to make contact with other members of the organization. We are happy to publish items of interest and news of members provided the information is received in our office by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month prior to the publication month.

Also, please check the SHOT website for updates and important information related to conferences, paper calls, and employment opportunities.

Details of the annual meeting will also be available on the website. Please watch for deadlines, locations, and other valuable information necessary to your travel plans.

## EMPLOYMENT

### CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

*Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences*

The Humanities faculty at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) invites applications for a part-time lecturer to teach one or possibly two courses in the history of technology, preferably of the United States in the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Lecturer salaries are commensurate with tenure-track salaries in the discipline, pro-rated for the number of courses.

We encourage applications from tenure track faculty in the Los Angeles area who would enjoy teaching Caltech students; Caltech classes are generally small, and the students are of superior intellectual ability. Candidates for the position must have a Ph.D. and should send a CV with names of at least three references, course syllabi, teaching evaluations (if available), a letter describing their current research, and one or two samples of their written work. Caltech is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Women, minorities, veterans, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

**Please contact:**

**Chair, Humanities Lecturer Search  
HSS 228-77 Caltech  
Pasadena, CA 91125**

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

role in interdisciplinary curricular planning as well as teaching and research. Possible areas for the open position are: New Media in the Humanities (digital humanities and public intellectual life), Technology/Science and Society, or Globalization and the Humanities (including literature). Candidates may, however, propose alternative interdisciplinary areas.

Candidates should submit a letter of interest and a curriculum vita. Review of applications will begin April 1, 2004 and continue until the position is filled. More information may be found at <http://www.gmu.edu/robinson>.

Applications or nominations in hard copy should be sent to:

**The Chair of the Robinson Professor  
Search Committee**

**Office of the Provost, MSN 3A2  
George Mason University  
4400 University Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22030**

In electronic format they should be sent to:  
[rbsearch@gmu.edu](mailto:rbsearch@gmu.edu).

### JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

Jet Propulsion Laboratory is seeking a Historian to coordinate the development and execution of a systemic approach to capture, maintain and disseminate the rich history of JPL, which will include researching, writing and editing historical manuscripts for publication on all phases of JPL's activities. In addition, you will edit and rewrite published historical material. Working in close cooperation with the Laboratory's Chief Archivist, this position will collect, appraise, arrange, inventory, record, preserve and file historical materials. You will also develop collection policies, ensure coherency of the collection, maintain ready access for researchers and provide various research services. You will develop a priority list for imaging key documents into the JPL Archives retrieval system for permanent

### GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

George Mason University announces a vacancy in its prestigious Clarence J. Robinson professoriate. Robinson Professors are distinguished, innovative scholars, interested in fundamental questions in the arts and sciences, with a deep commitment to undergraduate teaching at various levels. The community of Robinson Professors plays a key

preservation, oversee the JPL historical publication program and participate in NASA's history publication program, along with developing and overseeing JPL contracts for historical research. This position will also support the JPL Oral History Program by conducting and editing oral histories with JPL employees.

Specific professional and academic skills and requirements can be found at the SHOT website and <http://Careerlaunch.jpl.nasa.gov>.

### NEWS OF MEMBERS

Emily Thompson's article, "Machines, Music, and the Quest for Fidelity: Marketing the Edison Phonograph in America, 1877-1925," which appeared in *Musical Quarterly* in 1995, inspired musician Nick Brooke to compose an opera. *Tone Test*, a spoken and sung opera for two performers and a phonograph, will have its world premiere this summer in New York at the Lincoln Center Festival.

Jeremy Kinney graduated in December 2003 from Auburn University with a Ph.D. in history. Stephen McFarland, James Hansen, and William Trimble directed his dissertation, entitled, "Shifting Gears in the Air: America and the Variable-Pitch Propeller, 1918-1938."

Darwin H. Stapleton and Donna Heckman Stapleton have just published *Dignity, Dialogue and Destiny: The Life of Courtney C. Smith* (University of Delaware Press, 2004) on the life of a president of Swarthmore College (1953-1969), and American Secretary of the Rhodes Scholar Program.

### OTHER NEWS

The California Institute of Technology and the Francis Bacon Foundation are pleased to announce Lawrence M. Principe, Professor of History of Science and Technology and Chemistry at The Johns Hopkins University as the first recipient of the Francis Bacon Prize in History and Philosophy of Science and Technology. Offered biennially in the amount of \$20,000, the Prize is awarded to an outstanding scholar whose work has had substantial impact on the history of science, the history of technology, or historically engaged philosophy of science.

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Chemical Heritage Foundation has published two new books on the history of chemistry.

*The Chemical Industry at the Millenium: Maturity, Restructuring and Globalization*, by Peter Spitz, is now available from Chemical Heritage Press. More information is available at [www.chemheritage.org](http://www.chemheritage.org) or at [www.peterspitz.com](http://www.peterspitz.com).

Also available is an English translation of a German biography of Fritz Haber written by Dietrich Stoltzenburg. *Fritz Haber: Chemist, Nobel Laureate, German, Jew*; the long awaited biography of Fritz Haber, is now abridged by the author and translated into English.

### SUMMER WRITING WORKSHOP

#### SHOT Summer Writing and Publication Workshop

12-17 June 2004

Cape Cod, Massachusetts USA

The Society for the History of Technology will sponsor a summer writing and publication

workshop on June 12-17, 2004 (dependent on Small Grant Funding from the National Science Foundation). This is a pilot project for what is intended to become an annual event. We hope that other SHOT members will take the initiative to begin thinking about helping to extend this program in future years.

The workshop will bring together a group of fellows with a staff of experienced writing teachers, editors, science and technology journalists, and publishing industry insiders. Instructors will offer advice on academic publication, as well as writing that disseminates research findings to the general public.

Thomas R. Jehn, Assistant Director of the Harvard Writing Project, in the Expository Writing Project at Harvard University, will serve as lead teacher for the 2004 workshop. Other instructors and speakers will be announced soon. The application period for fellows has now closed. We thank all those who applied to participate in this workshop and appreciate your interest. The fellows selected for this 2004 workshop are:

Gwen Bingle  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Munich Centre for the History of Science and Technology  
Technische Universitat Muenchen  
Germany

Kevin Borg  
Assistant Professor  
Department of History  
James Madison University  
Harrisonburg, VA

Vera S. Candiani  
Ph.D. Candidate  
US Berkeley History  
Berkeley, CA

Maja Fjaestad, M.Sc.  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Dept. of History of Science and Technology  
Royal Institute of Technology  
Stockholm, Sweden

Maril Hazlett, Ph.D.  
Independent Scholar  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, KS

Per Hogselius  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Division of Innovation  
Lund Institute of Technology  
Lund University  
Stockholm, Sweden

Dr. Anders Houltz  
Researcher and Teacher  
Royal Institute of Technology  
Dept. for the History of Science and Technology  
Stockholm, Sweden

James McWilliams  
Assistant Professor of History  
Texas State University, San Marcos  
Austin, TX

Helen Watkins  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Department of Geography  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, BC, Canada

Matt Wisnioski  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Princeton University  
Program in History of Science  
Princeton, NJ

Timothy S. Wolters, Ph.D.  
Ramsey Post-Doctoral Fellow  
Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum  
Washington, DC

Shana Worthen  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Institute for the History and Philosophy of  
Science and Technology  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**If you have any questions about the 2004 workshop, please contact:**

Kris Kipp  
Project Manager  
Program in Science, Technology, and Society  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
77 Mass. Ave., E51-185  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
Phone: 617-253-9759  
Fax: 617-258-8118  
Email: kipp@mit.edu

**CONFERENCES**

**Dumbarton Oaks Symposium**

We are pleased to announce that the 2004 Dumbarton Oaks Garden and Landscape symposium will be presented in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution Department of Botany, and the United States Botanical Garden. Please note that there are **significant changes** to our usual symposium format and registration. **The expanded program will take place Thursday and Friday, May 6 and 7, at Dumbarton Oaks, and Saturday, May 8, at the Smithsonian Institution.**

Symposium registration is now open. Go to <http://www.doaks.org/GLS2004Sym.html> for registration materials for either the full three-day symposium, or the Dumbarton Oaks sessions only. The registration fees have changed: lunch is now included for everyone.

**Our registration is open earlier than usual.** We have limited space at Dumbarton Oaks and expect a large turnout; therefore please register early to reserve a space. When registration is full, we will use a waiting list. We look forward to seeing you for an exciting symposium. If you have any questions about the meeting please contact:

Phone: 202-339-6460

Email: [landscape@doaks.org](mailto:landscape@doaks.org)

**IIWE**

The International Institute of Women in Engineering is already receiving applications for the "IIWE 2004: Women Engineers Pushing the Limits" program from **July 1-20, 2004**. Due to popular demand, **this summer program has been lengthened from two to three weeks**, and it still takes place at EPF Ecole d' Ingénieurs in Paris, France. The IIWE's official language is English.

Ideally, candidates should be towards the end of their engineering courses. Younger candidates are also welcome to apply if they feel they could profitably participate in this session as well as make a contribution to the institute and its proceedings. Applications will be considered in the order of their arrival and the selection process will terminate once 75 suitable candidates have been chosen. A short waiting list will then be compiled. It is strongly suggested that you, and the person recommending you, submit your forms as soon as possible.

For complete program details, please see our new website at <http://www.iiwe.epf.fr>. The site is being updated, but the 2004 program information is current. Space is limited so interested persons should apply soon. **Important: if applicants need visas to enter France, please note that the process can now take up to four months.**

**CALLS FOR PAPERS**

**Pioneer America Society**  
36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania  
**October 21-23, 2004**

The Pioneer America Society will hold its 36<sup>th</sup> annual conference in Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania on October 21-23, 2004.

The headquarters for the meeting will be the Tyler Hall on the campus of Bucks County Community college in Newtown. The hosts for this event will be Professor Lyle Rosenberger, Director of the Historic Preservation Certificate Program at Bucks County Community College, and Historic Preservation Specialist David Kimmerly of the Heritage Conservancy.

The theme for this year's conference is: "The Cultural Landscape of Southeastern Pennsylvania." The Saturday field trip will focus on Dr. Henry Chapman Mercer, an important Bucks County historian, archaeologist, collector, and tile maker through visits to his home—Fonthill, his museum—the Mercer Museum, and his tile business—the Moravian Potter and Tiles Works, in nearby Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

The conference committee is currently soliciting proposals for papers, special sessions, and panel discussions relating to the conference theme. However, papers on all material culture topics of interest to the Society are welcome. The abstract deadline is **2 August 2004**.

For further conference information, contact:  
David Kimmerly  
1137 Park Avenue  
Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446  
Phone: 215-361-0272  
Email: [kimmerly@comcast.net](mailto:kimmerly@comcast.net)

**IWHA**  
**December 8-11, 2004**

The North West University: Vaal Triangle Campus (Vanderbijlpark, South Africa) in cooperation with The International Water History Association (IWHA) presents *Flows from the Past: A Trans-disciplinary Conference on the History of Water in Africa*, December 8-11, 2004.

This conference follows in the wake of discussions of the IWHA network and plans mooted by a group of interested researchers at the third conference of the IWHA in Alexandria, Egypt, in December 2003. It will be held at North West University, Vaal Triangle Campus, Vanderbijlpark and at the Riviera Hotel, Vereeniging. The major objective is to start exploring, under the auspices of the IWHA, the potential for a comprehensive project on the history of water on the African continent. It is hoped that the conference would prepare participants who specialize in Africa for the next IWHA Conference in Paris that is scheduled for 2005. There seems to be interest among international scholars in exploring some of the following themes.

Papers on past, current and proposed research on water history in Africa; Water historiography; Case histories of water in various parts of Africa; The history of (large) water schemes; Current trends in water planning—ideology and practice; The history of irrigation; Drinking water—trends in planning past and present; Sanitation from the pre-colonial to the post-colonial era; Water and security in Africa; Myths and rituals related to water—cultural manifestations; Strategies of water procurement in the colonial era; Hydropower in Africa; Indigenous societies and water; Rivers and their significance in Africa; The history of natural water disasters in Africa; Water in African delta regions; Water in African swamps; Methodologies of water history research; Interdisciplinary cooperation; Coordination and interaction of existing and proposed research; Other themes that present themselves from the abstracts received.

All abstracts must be submitted in English as an email attachment. Use Ms-Word: maximum length 300 words (one page); short CV (not more than 100 words); institutional affiliation. Send abstracts to Johann Tempelhoff (North West University) at [gskjwnt@puk.ac.za](mailto:gskjwnt@puk.ac.za). Final date to submit abstracts is **15 May 2004**.

Notification of acceptance of proposed papers is 1 August 2004. Deadline for the submission of papers is 13 October 2004; closing date for conference bookings is 1 November 2004. For general and registration enquiries contact:

Ms. Petra Lawson  
Phone: +27-16-910-3709  
Fax: +27-16-910-3711  
Email: [dvdpal@puk.ac.za](mailto:dvdpal@puk.ac.za) or check  
[www.iwha.net](http://www.iwha.net)

## ISIS

*Isis*, now under the editorial leadership of Bernard Lightman, of York University in Toronto, is actively seeking original submissions.

Lightman and his fellow editors are working to preserve and enhance *Isis*'s reputation as the most prestigious forum for articles in the history of science. *Isis* will continue to serve as a journal where scholars receive high quality feedback on their work.

The editors of *Isis* seek articles that will take the lead in shaping the field through proactive discussion on emerging and provocative developments in all area of the history of science. Since its inception in 1912, *Isis* has featured scholarly articles on the history of science, medicine, and technology, and their cultural influences. Review essays and book reviews on new publications in the field are also included. An official publication of the History of Science Society, it is the oldest (and most widely circulating) English-language journal in the field.

For more information visit *ISIS* online at: <http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/ISIS>

## SOLAR WORLD CONGRESS August 6-12, 2005

The 2005 Solar World Congress, to be held in Orlando, Florida, August 6-12, 2005, seeks contributors for a special topical section focusing on "The History of Solar Energy and the International Solar Energy Society." Co-sponsors of this topical section include the Society for the History of Technology and the International Committee for the History of Technology.

After 50 years, ISES proposes a special History Session on the occasion of its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to review the use of solar energy in the past in order to understand its role for the future.

Papers may be submitted for sessions currently being organized and additional sessions may be proposed.

Deadline for **submissions is 14 October 2004**.

Please express interest by contacting Dr. James C. Williams, Chair of the History Section Scientific and Technical Committee, by email at [techjunc@pacbell.net](mailto:techjunc@pacbell.net).

Deadline for submission of **abstracts is 15 October 2004**, and notification of acceptance will be December 1, 2004.

The abstract/paper must represent original work, and acceptance of papers for presentation will be based on extended abstracts. Abstracts submitted must be clearly identified on the top of the paper "to be presented at the History Sessions" of the Congress.

Full details about the 2005 Solar World Congress may be found at <http://www.swc2005.org>.

**Death of Eugene S. Ferguson**

One of the members of the founding generation of the Society for the History of Technology, Eugene S. Ferguson, died Sunday evening, March 21, 2004. The 1977 recipient of the Leonardo da Vinci Award, Ferguson (b. 1916) served in many roles in SHOT from its early days until well past his retirement as Professor of the History of Technology at the University of Delaware and Curator of Technology at the Hagley Museum and Library. A fuller account of Ferguson's life and work will appear later this year, and the Executive Council will publicly announce the establishment of a major prize memorializing Eugene Ferguson's contributions to both the field of the history of technology and to the development of SHOT. Cards and letters can be sent to Mrs. Eugene S. Ferguson, 625 Robert Fulton Highway, Quarryville, PA 17566.

***IT'S TIME  
TO START  
MAKING PLANS  
TO ATTEND  
THE ANNUAL  
MEETING!***

AMSTERDAM  
OCTOBER 7-10, 2004

MINNEAPOLIS  
NOVEMBER 3-6, 2005

LAS VEGAS  
OCTOBER 12-16, 2006

*CHECK THE SHOT  
WEBSITE FOR DETAILS*

**BE SURE TO CHECK THE  
SHOT WEBSITE  
FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND  
INFORMATION THAT  
ARRIVED TOO LATE FOR  
INCLUSION IN THIS  
QUARTER'S NEWSLETTER!**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE****A Major Dutch Gift to the Campaign to Endow the Editorship of *Technology and Culture***

David Hounshell

As we look forward to attending SHOT's 2004 Annual Meeting in Amsterdam in October, now is a great time to announce publicly an extremely generous gift to The Campaign for SHOT by a consortium of Dutch institutions and individuals. Many younger SHOT members may not be aware that one of SHOT's founding generation of historians of technology, Robert J. Forbes, was the Society's first recipient of the Leonardo da Vinci Medal, our highest honor, in 1962. Like many members of this founding generation, Forbes had labored seemingly alone in the vineyard of the nascent field until the Society for the History of Technology was founded in 1958, thereby pulling together a diverse set of individuals who believed strongly that the history of technology was not only interesting but also extremely important to an understanding of the modern world. I well remember that two of the first books that the late Professor Eugene Ferguson required my cohort of graduate students in the history of technology at Delaware to read were Forbes's 1950 book, *Man the Maker*, and his 1968 book, *The Conquest of Nature: Technology and Its Consequences*. Simply by comparing and contrasting those two books and the critical reviews of them by major scholars in the history of technology of the early to mid 1970s, one could see how far SHOT had helped to carry the history of technology.

Over the last two decades or so, no longer laboring in a void, scholars at universities in the Netherlands have worked assiduously to build the study of technology and its history. As many non-Dutch members of SHOT know from their extensive interaction with their Dutch colleagues, the Dutch have succeeded extremely well in their endeavors and have recently completed a multi-volume history of technology in the Netherlands in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In recognition of his role in fostering the history of technology in the Netherlands, SHOT member and Professor Harry Lintsen was recently made an Officer of Orange Nassau, one of the highest honors a Dutch citizen can receive, by the late Queen of the Netherlands.

Reflecting both this success and their commitment to the Society for the History of Technology, our Dutch colleagues and the institutions at which they teach and carry out research have donated 10,000 Euros to SHOT's editorial endowment. This gift reflects contributions from the following institutions and individuals:

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences of the University of Maastricht  
The Graduate School of Science, Technology, and Modern Culture of the Faculty of Philosophy of Science, Technology, and Society of the University of Twente  
The Faculty of Technology Management of the Eindhoven University of Technology  
The Foundation for the History of Technology of the Eindhoven University of Technology  
Professor Harry Lintsen of Eindhoven University  
Professor Johan Schot of Eindhoven University

As SHOT's Vice President and chief development officer, in 2002 I challenged our Dutch colleagues both to honor the legacy of Robert J. Forbes and to mark their role in the study of the history of technology and the Society for the History of Technology by making a gift to The Campaign for SHOT. Under the leadership of Johan Schot, then a member of our Executive Council, the Dutch truly rose to this challenge! I am pleased to be able to thank them on behalf of all present and future members of the Society for the History of Technology. Their gift stands as a challenge to us all to honor our intellectual forebears and to provide for the future welfare of *Technology and Culture*.

***SHOT Newsletter***  
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**Iowa State University**  
**618 Ross Hall**  
**Ames, IA 50011-1202**

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