

## Newsletter

#### OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY

No. 94, n.s., January 2002

#### SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

hat SHOT members want. No one is likely to turn this into a feature film anytime soon, though I do fancy myself as the Mel Gibson character—remember him in "What Women Want"?—when the time comes. Still, it's a matter worth pondering. Thanks to the Indiana University Center for Survey Research, we have more than impressions and anecdotes. Some of you received a survey last summer as part of a large study underwritten by the American Council of Learned Societies, and a gratifyingly high percentage of you returned the form. The statisticians tell us that the numbers are only meaningful for types of societies—small, medium, and large—not for individual societies. All the same, comparing our data against data from comparable societies can be eye opening. Although the exact numbers must remain confidential for the moment, the trends and conclusions seem clear enough, and provide us with an opportunity to talk about what we, as members, think SHOT should be doing for us.

The survey's single most important conclusion, which probably won't surprise you, is that SHOT and its sister societies are primarily about community building. That is, about 80% of respondents list the chance "to express my professional responsibility and identity" as very or somewhat important, and about the same number list establishing professional relationships as essential to our mission. Only 60% of us apparently consider professional societies important for keeping in touch with those people for "a personal or social relationship", so we'll have to work on our party skills. Nearly 90% say that being a member is very important or somewhat important in helping "to keep abreast of research and methodology," even though less than 20% think it's very important to publish their work in our journal, and a mere 10% say they've published an article there. Obviously, we're reading more than we're writing. About 75% say they're reading their journal often or very often, while 75% say they're reading their Newsletter often or very often. On the other hand, half say they vote in elections, and I know that's a wild exaggeration since I count the ballots! A stable, but relatively disappointing, number of us regularly attend the annual meeting (17% on average), and then most often when we're

presenting a paper. Here by the way, we do not stack up well against other societies, many of which get half their members to attend their annual meeting. No great surprise, we're collectively reluctant to serve on committees, and even more reluctant to make financial contributions other than annual dues. Very few of us look to professional societies as a source for leads on jobs and grants, and virtually no one thinks societies have much to contribute on the issue of "ethical standards for the profession or discipline". Only 10% say they consult the membership directory very often. With a couple hundred new directories stored in the corner of my office, I could have told you that. Half believe the society is important in representing their field to the wider public, though less than a tenth believe the society is very important in improving the teaching of our subject. When we have permission to release the report, you can give it the scrutiny it deserves. (continued on page 2)

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### SHOT Newsletter Editorial Policies, Advertising Rates, and Submissions 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 1st of the previous month**. Please note that material for the newsletter may be submited 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 1st day of the previous month.

Advertising Rates: Full Page (7-1/2" x 9-1/2"), \$200; Halfpage (7-1/2" x 5" or 3" x 9-1/2"), \$150; Quarterpage (3" x 5"), \$100

The SHOT logo was created by Brickworks of London

In the meantime, assuming we trust the numbers, what do they add up to? As I read them, they tell us that we have built a strong and self-sustaining community but one we need to enlarge. We have properly put our resources into attracting and supporting younger scholars, through such efforts as the Kranzberg and Hindle Fellowships and our annual graduate student breakfast, and through our commitment to finding leadership roles for younger members on our committees. More of us need to consider publishing our work in Technology and Culture. And many more of us should be coming to the annual meeting, whether or not we're giving a paper. As for financial contributions, you can read about how we can improve those figures in our announcement for the Campaign for SHOT in this issue. Supporting that campaign ensures the health of T&C, which in turn keeps us abreast of the latest research and methodology that 90% consider so important. I'm eager to hear new ideas about community building, and about getting more of that community involved in our annual meeting. Should we increase the number of sessions, at the risk of diluting the attendance at any one session? Should we consider more joint meetings, to attract scholars who might not ordinarily attend our meetings? Should we take the relative lack of interest in pedagogical matters as a sign that all is well, or as a signal to redouble our efforts? The social scientists apparently call what we're doing "solidary benefits". Mel Kranzberg would undoubtedly have preferred something closer to "warm and welcoming". Either way, "solidary" forever.

Stuart W. Leslie, Johns Hopkins University

#### THE CAMPAIGN FOR SHOT

SHOT members will soon be receiving a mailing that describes an important fundraising effort initiated in 2001 by our Executive Committee and coordinated by our Vice President. "The Campaign for SHOT" seeks to raise an endowment that will provide the Society for the History of Technology with permanent income to support the costs of running the editorial office of *Technology and Culture*. This is a crucial undertaking for SHOT and is intended to avert the financial crises that many professional societies have been experiencing with editing and publishing their scholarly journals in an era when institutional support for such undertakings has dwindled. Members who attended the Awards Banquet at the Annual Meeting in San Jose were briefed about The Campaign for SHOT. The entire Executive Committee and many of SHOT's Founding Generation have made substantial financial commitments to The

Campaign for SHOT. When you receive the mailing, please read the materials carefully and respond generously. Our success depends on every member participating in this undertaking.

## SHOT 2002 ANNUAL MEETING LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS MESSAGE

The Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto is happy to welcome SHOT members back to the City of Toronto for the first SHOT conference to be held here since the Four-Society meetings of October, 1980.

Toronto was founded in the late 1700s by American refugees from the Revolution, men and women who were strict Loyalists in their devotion to the British monarchy. (The fact that the victorious Americans regarded them as War Criminals had some influence on their decision as well.) Despite that inauspicious start, Metropolitan Toronto is a flourishing city of more than 2.5 million inhabitants that welcomes hundreds of thousands of Americans every year. Tourists visit Toronto in overwhelming numbers, attracted by the city's vibrant cultural life, its museums and galleries, its theatres, clubs and concert scene, and by the shopping opportunities provided by the anaemic Canadian dollar (worth some 63 cents American as of this writing).

Toronto is a cosmopolitan city made up of many immigrants. Few cities anywhere show the wide diversity of ethnic groups that Toronto can boast, and this makes for a restaurant life that can't be beat anywhere in North America. Toronto has most everything a major city could offer. It looks American — think Chicago, or perhaps Philadelphia — but its inhabitants act more like Europeans. They spill out of theatres or bars late at night without worrying about muggers; they ride public transit at all hours in blissful security; they eat at outdoor cafes whenever the weather permits. The downtown core is densely populated — again more like Europe than America — and this leads to a vitality that must be experienced to be believed.

The main conference hotel will be the Delta Chelsea, Canada's largest hotel. The DC is located at 33 Gerrard Street West, between Yonge Street (pronounced Young) and Bay Street, a short walk to some of the town's best theatres, attractions, shopping and dining. Members may want to take a virtual tour at <a href="http://www.deltachelsea.com">http://www.deltachelsea.com</a>. The hotel will hold all but a handful of sessions, and all breakfasts and SIGs, as well as the book display and hospitality suites. The hotel is about a mile

from the University of Toronto campus, where the committee is planning evening activities like the reception and banquet. To facilitate coming and going throughout Toronto, registered participants will receive a special Convention Pass good for two days unlimited travel on the city's subways, streetcars, and busses. These will be sold to accompanying persons as well. Shuttles will be provided for those needing transport to evening events.

The committee is also planning a variety of special events, including a reception at the Royal Ontario Museum, a banquet at the University of Toronto's Hart House Great Hall, a workshop on early printing, tours of the Niagara Falls area and its hydroelectric generating facilities, a trip to an integrated steel mill, and a visit to a restored nineteenth-century stationary steam engine once used as a municipal water pump. This is being planned as a family-friendly conference. Day care will be available in the hotel, for example, at a modest extra cost. We are also organising a Family Tour of Toronto that would include sightseeing and shopping opportunities for those accompanying SHOT delegates. Members who wish could also easily rent cars and go on their own to such attractions as the Stratford Festival, Oktoberfest, the Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake, or any number of fall colour drives north of the city.

Two final words: Canada is an independent nation and SHOT members coming to Toronto will have to clear customs and immigration whether they drive or fly. Just tell the agent that you're coming to an academic conference hosted by the University of Toronto and they'll wave you through. Immigration formalities were changed after September 11. Canada now requires some form of ID that contains a picture and your permanent address. Obviously if you have a passport, bring it along. Canada also uses its own money, that anaemic Canadian dollar (C\$) mentioned above, a cheerfully multi-coloured array in all the familiar denominations, but with C\$1 and C\$2 coins rather than banknotes. While merchants and taxi drivers will happily take American dollars, they will rarely give you a fair exchange rate. Fortunately, Canada has more Automatic Teller Machines per capita than any nation on earth, and they all take American bank cards. It's easy to grab a handful of Monopoly money to spend in Toronto!

We're really trying to make this a memorable meeting, and we look forward to welcoming you to Toronto on October 17-20, 2002.

For the Local Arrangements Committee,

Janis Langins Bert Hall

#### **SHOT 2002 CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Society for the History of Technology will hold its next annual meeting in Toronto, CANADA, October 17-20, 2002. The program committee invites proposals for individual papers and sessions on topics related to all aspects of the history of technology. Proposals that deal with regional or national comparative aspects of the history of technology and the cultural dimensions in technology transfers are encouraged.

Proposals for individual papers must include:

- 1) a one page abstract, and
- 2) a one-page curriculum vitae, including current postal and e mail addresses.

Proposals for complete sessions must include:

- 1) a description of the session's theme;
- 2) a list of the presenters' names and paper titles;
- 3) a one page abstract and one page c.v. for each of the presenters;
- 4) a one page c.v. for the commentator, chairperson, and session organizer, if she or he is not participating in the session.

The session description should clarify how individual papers contribute to the session's overall theme.

Applicants may chose either one of these submission methods:

- Send a paper copy of the complete proposal bearing a postmark or equivalent indication of submission date by Friday March 22, 2002 to: Karin Zachmann, SHOT Program Chair; TU Darmstadt, Institut fuer Geschichte, Schloss, D-64283 Darmstadt.
- 2. By the same date, send one single e mail message to <a href="mailto:shot2002@ifs.tu-darmstadt.de">shot2002@ifs.tu-darmstadt.de</a>, with electronic copies of all elements of the complete proposal as attachments, <a href="mailto:formatted">formatted in Microsoft Word</a> (any version of Word up to MS Word 2000 is fine, but the proposal must be a \*.doc file). Whether submitting an individual paper or a complete panel, the program committee will prefer to receive separate attachments for each item (vitae, paper, and so on).

The choice of submission methods will not affect the program committee's selection process in any way. Once the program is fixed, the committee hopes to have made arrangements to make the accepted abstracts available on the SHOT homepage.

## HOW TO GET YOUR PROPOSAL ACCEPTED AT SHOT

By Mike Allen, Jack Brown, Hans Weinberger, and Karin Zachmann, SHOT Program Committee Chairs, 1998-2002

In recent years, the SHOT Program Committee has received an exceptional number of high quality abstract submissions. From these we always must reject a great many, a difficult task. Nevertheless, we felt compelled to write this brief note with an eye to making that job even harder. Thinking particularly of graduate students, we offer these guidelines for proposal abstracts because we have seen that students from some programs consistently submit excellent, professional abstracts, while others do not. We sincerely doubt that this divergence always reflects the abilities of the scholars in question or the quality of their scholarship. Instead, it appears that a minority of graduate programs impart a clear sense of the elements of winning abstracts, while students at other programs are taught these skills haphazardly, if at all. To broaden access to SHOT, we outline here leading attributes which lend that professional authority to top-quality abstracts.

Each successful abstract usually consists of three parts. The first is the statement of the topic at issue. The opening sentences must capture the interest of any casual reader who, and this is the most important thing, is not inherently consumed by the topic in question. In short, the abstract must not only anticipate the question "What?" but also "So What!?" Should this go unanswered, the would-be panelist or organizer is almost assured a speedy rejection by a grumpy and overworked Program Committee. Scanning through an abstract in an unsuccessful attempt to figure out what a paper or panel is about is enough to try even the most patient and generous among us, especially when facing the task of rejecting far more abstracts than we can accept. Yet it must be said that this most crucial part of every abstract is usually found where it belongsthat is, in the first few sentences.

On the other hand, the second desirable part is missing a good portion of the time. The abstract must make a sound argument for why the topic in question is interesting, relevant, and important to the intellectual community of SHOT. Some authors attempt to do this by stating that "topic X has never been studied before." Whether true or not, we rarely count this as a sufficient reason to accept an abstract, for the question

inevitably arises: "Did generations of scholars correctly dismiss "topic X" as mundane and thus unworthy of attention?" Unfortunately many abstracts fail to counter this question in any way. Apparently these authors assume that unexplored territory will, by definition and without elaboration, merit the attention and interest of SHOT's membership. Sadly this is almost never the case.

It is exactly here that a more methodical approach to the preparation of abstracts quickly sets those that pique our unanimous interest apart from those that make us itch for the next abstract in the pile. The easiest remedy is to outline a straightforward contribution the exploration of "topic X" will make to some known historiographic literature or theoretical tradition. Few abstracts ever make the slightest attempt to do this, but it is not difficult. The proposal need only mention a few important authors, central articles, or leading texts which are read in common by a significant segment of our society, briefly state the substance of the debate defined by these works, and, lastly, sketch how this proposal contributes to it (i.e. does it advance or critique it?). The best proposals usually accomplish this in no more than a paragraph.

From time to time we receive complaints after rejection notices go out. Now and then the Program Chair must answer huffy letters in high dudgeon accusing the committee's members of possessing no knowledge of this or that topic, of discriminating against this or that national group, and the like. The Program Committee goes to great lengths to ensure that the program represents different historical time periods (medieval, early modern, modern, etc.), topics (gender, economic history, labor history, etc.), and nationalities (US, Canadian, European, etc.). But, true enough, as a committee of three individuals we can never hope to master all possible topics or all possible languages in which the members of SHOT choose to work. It is also true that we sometimes reject perfectly good abstracts that propose topics outside the bounds of SHOT (to cite a recent example, an internal history of mathematical ideas). In some few cases, we believe that individual papers might even make excellent contributions to a different conference, just not SHOT. But such cases are, in fact, very rare, usually no more than one or two abstracts each year. In no case in recent memory have such rejections ever sparked a heated letter of complaint. The vast majority of rejections occur because the authors have made no argument at all for the potential relevance of their proposals to SHOT's membership.

In fact the committee is predisposed to accept any abstract that advances a plausible case for its relevance to known works in the history of technology; likewise we always accept those that advance a case for the relevance of the history of technology to any other known literature. We even do so whether or not we necessarily know the merits of the particular books and articles in question. If we were to receive an abstract from a Byelorussian or a native of the Chatham Islands claiming to contribute to a debate among his or her compatriots about the history of technology, we would jump at the chance to include it, if for no other reason than to redress the ignorance among SHOT members about such underexplored subjects.

One last piece of every "perfect" abstract also bears mention. The very best abstracts, those that always garner our unanimous acceptance, not only state their topic clearly in the first few sentences, not only pass from there into a paragraph about the relevance of this topic to known interests within SHOT, they also end by stating what methods and what body of research the author has used to tackle the topic in question. Sometimes abstracts go so far as to intimate the author's conclusions, but it usually suffices to know that the author is onto something interesting and relevant and has thought seriously about how to go about his or her task. This last bit is usually covered in two or three sentences.

As matters stand, we have a notable rejection rate for paper and panel submissions - fine evidence of a healthy society engaged in substantive inquiry and debate over issues that matter. These guidelines will have little effect on the overall rejection rate, a proportion arising from the quantity of submissions against the basic time and space constraints of a meeting. Rather, in offering these guidelines we aim to uncloak the mysteries that apparently have left many in the dark. All any graduate student need do is start off with a "hook," stating his or her topic in no more than a paragraph; then develop an additional paragraph that outlines the historiographic relevance to SHOT; and, last, close with a brief statement of what he or she is going to do about it and how. Should students and scholars that make up SHOT all begin to do this, the work will become significantly harder for the Program Committee, but the payoffs for panelists, audiences, and SHOT at large will certainly reward that effort.

#### **SOCIETY NEWS**

#### **SHOT PRIZES FOR 2002**

The SHOT prizes will be awarded at the annual meeting which will be in Toronto, CANADA, October 17-20, 2002. For details on submitting nominations for the SHOT prizes, see the web site or contact the Secretary's office: <a href="mailto:shot@jhu.edu">shot@jhu.edu</a> or 410-516-8349.

The **Leonardo da Vinci Medal** is the highest recognition from the Society for the History of Technology. It is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the history of technology through research, teaching, publication, and other activities. The 2002 committee members are Terry Reynolds, chair (treynold@mtu.edu), W. Bernard Carlson, Bo Sundin, John Smith, Jeffrey R. Yost, Robert Kanigel, Erik Rau.

The **Edelstein Prize** is awarded to the outstanding book published in the history of technology, broadly defined, published during the period 1999-2001. Non-English language books are eligible for three years following the date of their English translation. The prize consists of \$3500 and an engraved plaque. Publishers and authors are invited to nominate titles for this prize. To nominate a book send one copy to EACH of the committee members. Deadline for receipt of books is **1 April 2002**. Committee members for 2002 are Bernie Carlson, chair, Margaret Graham and Stephen H. Cutcliffe.

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 2000. 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 2002 prize. Please send a copy of the paper to EACH member of the prize committee by 1 May 2002. The prize consists of a cash award of \$500 and a certificate. The 2002 committee members are Jeffrey Yost, chair, David Morton, and David Mindell.

The Samuel Eleazar and Rose Tartakow Levinson Prize is awarded to a graduate student for an unpublished paper that explicitly examines in some detail a technology or technological device/process within the framework of social or intellectual history. Any single-authored, unpublished paper written by a graduate student is eligible. Manuscripts already published or accepted for publication will not be considered. Manuscripts should be in English and of a length suitable for publication as a journal article. The closing date for nominations is 1 May 2002. The award consists of \$400 and a certificate. The 2002 committee members are John Smith, chair, Amy Slaton and Patrick McCray.

Presenters at the 2002 annual meeting of the Society for the History of Technology are invited to nominate their presentations for the 2002 Joan Cahalin Robinson Prize. Established in 1980 by Dr. Eric Robinson in memory of his wife, the prize is awarded annually for the best presented paper at the SHOT meeting. Candidates for the award are judged on the quality of the historical research and scholarship of the paper, but special attention is paid by the awards committee to the effectiveness of the oral presentation. Graduate students who are giving their first paper at a SHOT meeting will be eligible for the prize; young scholars who have received their PhD no more than one year before are also eligible. The Robinson Prize consists of a check for \$350 and a certificate. Those wishing to nominate themselves and their paper for the prize should send an abstract of their paper (not the complete paper) and an abbreviated curriculum vitae (1-page) to EACH member of the prize committee. Please be certain to confirm your status as a graduate student or a recent PhD. The deadline for receiving nominations is 1 May 2002. The committee members for 2002 are Erik Rau, chair, Janet Abbate, Greg Fields, Mary Ann Hellrigel, Bruce Hevly, Greg Downey and Sara Pritchard.

The **Abbott Payson Usher** Prize was established to honor the scholarly contribution of the late Dr. Usher and to encourage the publication of original research of the highest standard. It is awarded annually to the author of the best scholarly work published during the preceding three years under the auspices of the Society for the History of Technology. The prize consists of \$400 and a certificate. The 2002 committee members are: Bo Sundin, chair, Joy Parr and Eric Schatzberg.

The **Sally Hacker Prize** is awarded to the best popular book published during the period 1999-2001. The prize, consisting of \$2000 and a certificate, recognizes books in the history of technology that are directed to a broad audience of readers, including students and the interested public. Publishers and authors are invited to nominate titles for this prize. To nominate a book send one copy to EACH of the committee members. Deadline for receipt of books is **1 April 2002**. Committee members are Robert Kanigel, chair, George Basalla and Paul Josephson.

The **Melvin Kranzberg Dissertation Fellowship**, was established in 1997 in memory of the cofounder of the Society, and honors Melvin Kranzberg's many contributions to developing the history of technology as a field of scholarly endeavor. The \$2000 award is unrestricted and may be used in any way that the winner chooses to advance the research and writing

of his or her dissertation. Possible uses include underwriting the costs of travel to archival collections; photocopying or microfilming; translation of documents; and so on. The award may not be used for university tuition or fees. Students from institutions of higher learning anywhere in the world who are working on projects in the history of technology are eligible to apply; doctoral candidates from outside the United States are especially encouraged to submit application materials. Applicants must have completed all requirements for their doctorate except for the dissertation by 1 September 2002. Committee members: Thomas Zeller, chair, Susan Douglas, Howard Segal, Suzanne Moon, and Robert Ferguson.

SHOT's **International Scholars** program was established to encourage greater participation in SHOT by scholars outside North America and 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 or publication by the Society. The International Scholars Committee asks all SHOT members to help identify qualified individuals for this program for 2003-2004. Self nomination is also encouraged. Committee members: John Krige, chair, Paul Josephson, Raman Srinivassan, and Takehiko Hashimoto.

SHOT Travel Grants provide travel assistance to the meeting in Toronto, Canada in October 2002. 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 planning to attend the meeting in San Jose. 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 2002. The Secretary will notify recipients by about 1 July 2002. Committee members are Ravi Rajan, chair, Hugh Gorman and Hans Weinberger.

#### SHOT 2002 Budget

Approved at October 2001 Executive Council Meeting

#### Income

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Unre	stricte	d Incom	ρ

<b>Unrestricted Income</b>	
Advertising—newsletter	600
Annual Meeting	0
Memberships	49,500
Copyediting subvention from JHU	7,500
Subscriptions	100
Unrestricted donations	500
Dividends and Interest	17,500
Capital gains	1,000
Total Unrestricted income	76,700
Restricted Income	
Donations	
Dexter (Edelstein) prize	3,500
Dibner fund	15,000
YSTravel (From Dibners)	10,000
Ferguson Prize Fund	5,000
Kranzberg	4,000
Levinson	0
Sally Hacker Prize	500
SIGS (Mercurians and WITH)	500
Grants: NSF3—travel grant	10,000
Publication Royalties	250
T&C Endowment	0
Total Restricted Income:	48,750
<b>Total Income:</b>	125,450
Expenses	
<b>Unrestricted Expenses</b>	
Ann Mtg	
Prog comm	-1,500

Aim Mig	
Prog comm	-1,500
Insurance	-850
Secretariat	
Newsletter - Total	-5,000
Admin svcs	-24,000
Bank credit card fees	-100
Travel	-2,000
Ballots and other general expenses	-1,500
Postage	0

Total Secretariat:	-32,600
Treasurer:	
Accounting and tax prep fees	-4,000
Supplies and travel	-200
Total Treasurer:	-4,200
Endow Dev Comm	-5,000
Exec cncl - Spring meeting	-5,500
T&C	- ,
Book Review Editor	-3,000
Copyediting	-10,000
Office secretarial	-2,000
Editor's salary supplement	-2,000
	-17,000
Society Memberships	17,000
ACLS	-1,000
AHA	-240
ICOHTEC	-240 -500
NCCPH	-750
NHA	-1,000
NIA NINCH	-1,000 -500
Total Society Memberships:	-3,990
SIG Matching Grants	200
Mercurians	-300
WITH	-300
Envirotech	-300
Total SIG Matching Grants:	-900
Contingency	-3,500
Total Unrestricted Expenses:	<u>-75,040</u>
Restricted Expenses	
Travel grants	
SHOT annual mtg—from NSF3 grant	-10,000
SHOT annual mtg—from Dibner Fund (YS Fund)	-10,000
ICOHTEC (from Young Scholar Fund)	-5,000
Total travel grants:	-25,000
Prizes	
Dexter-Edelstein prize	-3,500
Dibner prize	
Advertising	-500
Postage	-100
Winner travel	-1,000
Plaque engraving	-110
Total Dibner Prize:	-1,710
Hacker Prize	-1,250
Hindle Postdoc Fellowship	-10,000
Kranzberg flshp	-2,000
Levinson prize	-2,000 -450
Robinson prize	-350
-	-350 -450
Usher prize  Total Prizes:	
Dibner Fund	-19,710
	2 000
AHA-SHOT Pamphlets	-2,000

Exhibit Review	-2,000
Hacker Prize subvention	-750
T&C 40-year Index	
Support for graduate student organizations	-750
Total Dibner Fund Expenses:	-5,500
SIG Reimbursement	
Mercurians	-60
WITH	-140
Total SIG Reimbursement:	-200
<u>Total Restricted Expenses:</u>	<u>-50,410</u>
Total Expenses (Unrestricted + Restricted):	:-125,450

**Total Income - Total Expenses:** 0

#### **NEWS OF MEMBERS**

**Lindy Biggs** will be a Fulbright Fellow at NTNU in Trondheim, Norway spring semester of 2002. She has also received an NSF grant for 2001-2002 to work on "The Factory and the Child Labor Problem in Early Industrial Britain: A Study in Technology and Change."

Martin V. Melosi, University of Houston, has won the Abel Wolman Prize for the best book in public works history in 2001, awarded by the Public Works Historical Society for his book, The Sanitary City: Urban Infrastructure in America from Colonial Times to the Present (Johns Hopkins, 2000).

**Jack H. Westbrook** received the Albert Sauveur Achievement Award for 2001. The citation reads: "For contributions calling attention to intermetallic compounds as a new class of engineered materials and advancing scientific understanding of their behavior, particularly their mechanical properties, constitution and defect structures."

**Edmund Russell**, University of Virginia, won the 2001 Forum for the History of Science in America Prize for "The Strange Career of DDT: Experts, Federal Capacity, and 'Environmentalism' in World War II," *Technology and Culture* 40 (1999): 770-796.

#### **CONFERENCES**

Producing and Consuming Natures, American Society for Environmental History, Denver, Colorado March 20-23, 2002. The conference seeks to explore the various ways

humans have historically drawn nature into their lives — through working and imagining, devouring and debating, transforming and transporting it. Papers will explore the human history of nature as symbol as well as substance, in popular culture and consumption as well as production and extraction. Panelists will also engage a diversity of views about what nature is or should be, within or across cultures. For further information, including program and hotels, see the ASEH website at: www.h-net.msu.edu/~environ

Industrializing Organisms: Plants, Animals and Technology - Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ April 4-6, 2002 When, where, and how have industrializing humans sought to "improve" plants and animals in order to better integrate them into technological processes and systems? In what ways was the modification of organisms an essential element of modern technology, and with what consequences? The Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis announces a conference, "Industrializing Organisms: Plants, Animals and Technology," to be held in New Brunswick, NJ, April 4-6, 2002. Papers consider themes ranging from banana breeding and biological weaponry to the industrialization of trees, bees, chickens, and cattle. Historians and scientists will provide panel comments. Registration required (no fee); conference housing and meals available inexpensively. Graduate students especially welcomed. Contact: Lynn Strawbridge, RCHA, 88 College Ave., New Brunswick, NJ 08901, 732-932-8701, or shanko@rci.rutgers.edu. Questions? Email Phil Scranton (scranton@crab.rutgers.edu). For final program with commentators and for on-line registration form, after February 15, go to: www.rcha.rutgers.edu

The Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology announces its Seminar in the History of Biology, to be held from the evening of May xx through breakfast on June xx, 2002 (exact dates still to be determined), at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. This year's seminar will examine the history of collaborations between academic and industrial life scientists. The goals of the seminar include stimulating new research on the history of industrial life science, and gaining historical perspective on the recent controversies surrounding the intimate relations between biologists and industrialists that have developed in relation to genetic engineering. Organizers for the Dibner History of Biology Seminars are John Beatty, James Collins, and Jane Maienschein; for this seminar, John Beatty (beatty@umn.edu) will serve as the main contact. For further information about the seminar series and for application materials and financial aid applications, please contact: The Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, Dibner Building, MIT E56-100, Cambridge MA 02139 (tel.

617-253-8721), or email Carla Chrisfeld (carlac@mit.edu).

"Sacred Ritual Practices in Gardens and Landscapes" is the topic of the next Dumbarton Oaks Symposium in Studies in Landscape Architecture, to be held on May 10-11, 2002. This symposium will aim to better understand the reception of gardens and landscapes by focusing on a limited number of sacred ritual practices in gardens and landscapes in a large variety of cultural contexts. It will give rise to discussions of the formative functions of gardens and landscapes for cultural and social life. The symposium will draw examples from Ancient Greece, Heian and Muromachi Japan, late Tenochtitlan, early colonial Mexico, 16th- and 19thcentury India, 17th-century Italy, 18th- to 20th-century Saramaka Maroon culture in Suriname, contemporary Arawak culture in Peru, and contemporary England, thus offering an unusual perspective for cross-cultural discussion of social practices in gardens and landscapes. Registration information will be available in March 2002 from: Studies in Landscape Architecture, Dumbarton Oaks, 1703 32nd Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007, or at the department website: http:// www.doaks.org/LandscapeArchitecture.html

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

The Business History Conference announces its search for Editor of Enterprise & Society: The International Journal of Business History. Enterprise & Society is the world's leading journal in business history. Interdisciplinary in approach and international in scope, it offers a forum for research on the historical relations between businesses and their larger political, cultural, institutional, social, and economic contexts. Oxford University Press publishes the journal. The new Editor will succeed founding editor, William J. Hausman of the College of William & Mary, whose final issue will be December 2003. The new Editor's term starts in January 2004, runs for four years, and is renewable. The Editor is supported by associate editors and an editorial board representative of a broad range of nations, methodologies, and areas of specialization. The Editor also serves as an ex-officio officer of the BHC. The Editor will be involved in negotiating a renewal of the contract with Oxford University Press. All expressions of interest are welcome, preferably by 1 April 2002, and addressed to Philip Scranton, Chair, Enterprise & Society Transition Committee. Formal applications should be submitted by 1 December 2002, and include a statement of qualifications, management plan, intellectual goals, and editorial philosophy. It should also include a letter from the sponsoring institution on its commitment of support. Interviews will take place in early 2003, and the BHC Trustees will make the final appointment at their Spring 2003 meeting. Philip Scranton, Chair, *Enterprise & Society* Transition Committee, Business History Conference, P.O. Box 3630, Wilmington, Delaware 19807. email: scranton@crab.rutgers.edu

MIT's Program in Science, Technology, and Society invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in the history and/or social study of biology and the life sciences. Candidates should be able to teach subjects of special interest to undergraduates majoring in biology, premed, and bioengineering. Special consideration will be given those whose research focuses on science in colonial or post-colonial contexts. The candidate should also be able to address contemporary issues in the biological sciences. Candidates should submit a letter of application, a complete resume, a brief description of research interests (2-3 pages), and three letters of recommendation to: Debbie Meinbresse, Program in Science, Technology, and Society, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, E51-185, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139-4307; Fax: (617) 258-8118; E-mail: meinbres@mit.edu. Applications should be received by February 15, 2002. MIT is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action employer and strongly encourages applications from women and members of minority groups.

#### **FELLOWSHIPS**

The Science, Medicine, and Technology in Culture Program at Pennsylvania State University invites applications for a 2-year postdoctoral NSF Fellowship in residence beginning fall 2002. Field of expertise is open. The postdoc will teach one course per semester: He or she will also coorganize (along with two faculty members) an international workshop on gender and science to be held spring 2004. This workshop will invite scientists to discuss how gender analysis has changed their fields of research. SMTC spans the departments of History, English, Philosophy, Anthropology, Women's Studies and several of PSU's leading departments of life, social, and physical science. For further information, please see the website: <a href="http://faculty.la.psu.edu/ssps/smtc.html">http://faculty.la.psu.edu/ssps/smtc.html</a>. Candidates must have completed their Ph.D. by fall 2002. The award carries with it a \$30,000 per year stipend plus benefits. Interested candidates should send c.v., a brief statement of research and teaching interests (2-3 pages), one dissertation chapter or article, and three letters of recommendation to: Dr. Londa Schiebinger, Edwin E. Sparks Professor,

Department of History, 311 Weaver, Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802. Review of applications will begin **1 Feb. 2002** and continue until the position is filled. EOE/AA. Email: <u>LLS10@psu.edu</u>.

The College of Human Ecology, Cornell University, is seeking applications for the year 2002 Dean's Fellowship in the History of Home Economics and Human Nutrition. Preference will be given to scholars in more advanced stages of a research project but younger scholars are encouraged to apply. One award of \$3,500 is available for a summer or sabbatical residency of six continuous weeks to utilize the resources available from the College and the Cornell Library System in pursuit of scholarly research into the history of home economics and its impact on American society. Deadline: April 1, 2002. See <a href="www.human.cornell.edu/history">www.human.cornell.edu/history</a> for details.

The University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture announces a major Research Internship at in the qualitative study of sustainable technology for an entering graduate student in the MSAS, or Ph.D. program with Dr. Steven A. Moore, AIA, Director, Design With Climate program. Applicants at the Ph.D. level will be given preference, but consideration will be given to qualified applicants to the Master of Architectural Science in Studies program. Students with an interest in the critical study of "sustainability" as a social and political phenomenon are encouraged to apply. Contact Steven Moore samoore@mail.utexas.edu. The Internship includes a stipend of \$15,500.00 plus \$500.00 for medical insurance and tuition waivers for up to 9 credit hours in each of the first two semesters of study. Financial support in subsequent years of study may be available, but is not guaranteed.

Applications to Conduct an NEH Seminar or Institute in Summer 2003 Application Deadline: March 1, 2002. Each summer the National Endowment for the Humanities supports faculty development through residential seminars and institutes. These projects are designed to provide teachers from across the nation with the opportunity for intensive study of important texts and topics in the humanities. Seminars and institutes are intended to foster excellent teaching by encouraging collegial discussion of humanities topics within close-knit scholarly communities. They also promote active scholarship in the humanities in ways suited to teachers at all levels from grade school through college. Now is a good time to begin drafting a proposal to direct a seminar or institute, or to contact a colleague whom you think might be interested in

developing a project. The NEH is supporting 28 projects for school teachers and 23 for college and university faculty in the summer of 2002. You may find lists of these projects on the NEH website at <a href="http://www.neh.gov/projects/si-school.html">http://www.neh.gov/projects/si-school.html</a> school teachers) and http://www.neh.gov/projects/siuniversity.html (college and university teachers). If you or your colleagues would like to apply to offer a seminar or institute in 2003, please be in touch with one of the NEH program staff listed below to discuss your application. Program staff can answer questions, discuss current program emphases, provide samples of successful applications, and comment on an informal draft. Staff can help anticipate questions that are likely to arise in the review process. The application guidelines can be found on the NEH website at http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/seminars.html. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to call on the staff at the NEH Division of Education Programs. For general questions, call Joyce Ferguson at 202-606-8463 or Jean Hughes at 202-606-8471, or contact one of the program officers: Thomas Adams 202-606-8396 tadams@neh.gov; Douglas Arnold 202-606-8225 darnold@neh.gov; Barbara Ashbrook 202-606-8388 bashbrook@neh.gov; Sonia Feigenbaum 202-606-8490 sfeigenbaum@neh.gov; Gary Henrickson 202-606-8241 ghenrickson@neh.gov; Judith Jef-202-606-8398 jhoward@neh.gov; F. Bruce frey Howard Robinson 202-606-8213 brobinson@neh.gov; Robert Sayers 202-606-8215 rsayers@neh.gov

The Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin announces two Walther Rathenau postdoctoral fellowships for 2002/04for outstanding junior scholars working on some aspect of "Science on Screen" - the projection of scientific images, including the camera obscura (and lucida), magic lanterns, photography, and film. Projects involving any aspect of such projections in science from the 16th century to the present are welcome. The fellowship is for a 24 months stay at the Institute in Berlin, beginning 1 October, 2002. In addition to conducting his or her own research, the Rathenau Fellows will help in the preparation of the Berlin Summer Academy 2003 on "Science on Screen". Furthermore the Institute announces the Lorenz Krüger postdoctoral fellowship for 2002/03 for an outstanding junior scholar whose current research combines perspectives from the history of science with those of the philosophy of science and/or the history of philosophy. The fellowship is named in honor of the late Professor Lorenz Krüger, of the University of Göttingen, whose work sought to connect philosophy with the history of science. The Lorenz Krüger Fellowship is awarded for a one year stay at the Institute in Berlin, beginning 1 October, 2002. The fellowships are open to scholars of all nationalities who have completed their Ph.D. no earlier than 1997 and no later than September 2002. The stipend for applicants from abroad is 3600 DM ( $\approx 1.840,65$ ) per month. Women are encouraged to apply. Qualifications being equal, precedence will be given to candidates with disabilities. Applicants for both fellowships are invited to send a curriculum vitae, a brief research proposal (maximum 1000 words), and two letters of recommendation by 31 March, 2002 to: Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, "Rathenau Fellowship" or "Krüger Fellowship", Wilhelmstraße 44, 10117 Berlin, Germany.

#### **CALLS FOR PAPERS**

The Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society invites paper proposals for a conference, "The Technological Fix," Oct. 4 and 5, 2002, which will consider technologies and technological strategies intended to address a wide variety of needs and problems in 20th century America. The conference will take place at the Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, Delaware. Provocative technological fixes have targeted such issues as dishonesty, crime, pollution, waste, danger, disease, resource depletion, time pressures, crowding, and agricultural productivity. Others have addressed social problems like the weakening of family and community bonds. Papers may discuss "fixes" that have worked, failed or were never implemented, or efforts to solve problems that earlier technologies created. They welcome analysis of the engineering, political, and marketing dimensions of the problem-solving process, as well as of their intersections. Proposals are due by February 15, 2002 and should include an abstract of no more than 500 words and a brief c.v. Funds may be available to support travel to the conference by speakers. Please direct proposals and queries to: Dr. Roger Horowitz, Associate Director, Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society, Hagley Museum and Library, P.O. Box 3630, Wilmington, DE 19807, email: rh@udel.edu; direct fax: 302-655-3188

The forty-fifth annual meeting of the **Midwest Junto for the History of Science** will be held **April 5-7, 2002**, at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. The program committee invites proposal abstracts of no more than 100-150 words on papers related to any aspect of the history of science, technology, or medicine. The deadline for submissions is **March 1, 2002**. Graduate students are especially encouraged to participate; as is traditional for the Junto, lodging for graduate-student presenters will be partially subsidized. For more information, please contact Amy Bix, History Department, 633 Ross Hall, Iowa State University, Ames IA 50011. Phone: (515)294-0122; fax: (515)294-6390; e-mail: abix@iastate.edu

**Delft University of Technology** will be hosting a conference on Engineering Education in Sustainable Development. They welcome papers that: \*Reflect on the concept of sustainable development and its importance for engineering practices such as design, maintenance, and management \*Analyze (sustainable) technological innovation practices, and the role engineers play in these projects, to address the question: what knowledge/abilities should the future engineer have? \*Evaluate existing sustainable technological development courses or curricula \*Describe how specific sustainable development related challenges, such as providing food, shelter, transport or water for future generations are integrated into engineering education. \*Analyze the social implications of (sustainable) technological change \*Analyze and evaluate (interdisciplinary) student project work targeted at sustainability \*Address the question whether we need special sustainable development-engineers or rather to integrate sustainable development into existing curricula and courses \*Analyze the tension between teaching students the long-term sustainable development view as a global challenge and the, in that perspective apparently trivial, optimization of minor details of technologies. \*Analyze organizational and/or political issues related to the introduction of sustainable development in higher education \*Analyze and/or evaluate activities to teach sustainable development to staff members. Abstracts with a maximum length of 400 words must be submitted before 1 February 2002 to DUT Congress Office, Mekelweg 5, NL 2628 CC Delft, Tel: +31-15-2788022, Fax: +31-15-2786755, Congressoffice@fd.tudelft.nl Submission by fax or regular mail is also possible. All abstracts will be refereed by a international scientific panel. The full papers are due 1 August 2002. All further inquiries can be sent to the conference secretariat Dr. K.F. Mulder, Delft University of Technology, Faculty Technology Policy & Management, Jaffalaan 5, NL 2628bx Delft, The Netherlands, k.f.mulder@tbm.tudelft.nl http://www.odo.tudelft.nl/conference.html

September 21-22, 2002. The School of History Technology and Society, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta will host JASHOPS 2002 (the Joint Atlantic Seminar in the History of the Physical Sciences). Papers are invited from pre-docs and recent post-docs on the theme 'Distributed Sites of Knowledge Production', and that explore the multiple spaces in which knowledge has been produced, circulated and transformed through the ages (academia, industrial laboratories, the 'field', clinical practices, military laboratories, private homes, pubs, museums, colonial expeditions, etc). Some financial support will be available for graduate students. For further information please contact: Jahnavi Phalkey jahnavi.phalkey@hts.gatech.edu or Prof. John Krige john.krige@hts.gatech.edu or write to either at the School of

History, Technology and Society, Georgia Institute of Technology, D M Smith Bldg., 685 Cherry Street, Atlanta, GA 30332 -0345. **Abstracts should be sent in by April 25**th, **2002.** 

#### SCIENCE WRITING AT MIT

MIT's Graduate Program in Science Writing is accepting applications for its first entering class in September 2002. The program leads to a Master of Science degree and normally consists of one year of course work, a thesis, and an internship. SHOT member **Robert Kanigel**, professor of science writing at MIT and author of *The Man Who Knew Infinity* and *The One Best Way*, is its director. The program's other core faculty include:

B.D. Colen, Pulitzer Prize-winning medical writer.

Alan Lightman, author of *Einstein's Dreams*. Essays and short fiction in *Harper's*, *The New Yorker*.

Kenneth Manning, author of *Black Apollo of Science*, National Book Award and Pulitzer finalist.

James Paradis, historian of Darwinism.

Boyce Rensberger, formerly with New York Times and Washington Post.

#### Applications will be accepted until February 15, 2002.

For information, contact:

Graduate Program in Science Writing Massachusetts Institute of Technology 77 Massachusetts Avenue, 14N-108 Cambridge, MA 02139

Email: <a href="mailto:sciwrite-www@mit.edu">sciwrite-www@mit.edu</a>
Website: <a href="http://web.mit.edu/sciwrite">http://web.mit.edu/sciwrite</a>
Tel: 617-253-6668 Fax: 617-452-5100

#### PUBLIC HISTORY AND PUBLIC DEBATE

by Stuart W. Leslie

As recent controversies over the proposed exhibit, "The Last Act: The Atomic Bomb and the End of World War II" at the National Air and Space Museum and "Science in American Life" at the National Museum of American History make all too clear, the public and its elected representatives have a large, and sometimes vocal, stake in the history of technology and its interpretation. Many of us, I suspect, secretly wish we could reach such a large audience, without being held politically accountable. We may aspire to be public historians, even public intellectuals, but certainly not at the risk of having our scholarship revised or even censored by public authority. We're professionals, after all, at least if we have tenure. Or so we imagine.

As individuals, we can choose to weigh in on one side or the other of any public debate. But are there times when SHOT itself should take a public stand? Every so often, we are asked to lend our collective support to one cause or another, a tenure decision, a museum exhibit, a patent controversy. While we have no stated policy on such matters, we have always decided that SHOT cannot speak with a single voice on behalf of its diverse membership. Many of us may have been appalled by what we considered the politically motivated cancellation of the Enola Gay exhibit orchestrated by a veteran's group. Or by what some of us may see as the selling off of the "nation's attic" to the highest bidder as the Smithsonian Institution tries to raise private funds in an era of tight budgets. At the same time, others of us may see these as examples of democracy and capitalism in action, whether or not we happen to agree with the results.

Yet if we can never speak with one voice, does that mean we should keep silent? Are there occasions, for example, when we should strongly support the basic principle of academic freedom without endorsing any particular point of view? Our Constitution says: "The purpose of the Society shall be to foster interest in the development of technology and its relations with society and culture, and to promote scholarly study of the documents and artifacts of the history of technology. The Society pursues these objectives by the publication of its journal Technology and Culture; by the support and subvention of other forms of scholarly publications; by promoting excellence in technology museum exhibits; by the award of medals, prizes, and other honors for outstanding contributions to the history of technology and its cultural relations; and by cooperation with other learned societies and educational institutions with scholarly and popular interest in the history of technology." Not a word about public mission or responsibility. Surely most of us believe that our scholarship has something meaningful to say to the wider world. Otherwise, we really do run the risk of becoming a society, to paraphrase David Noble's now (in)famous criticism, that is essentially about finding each other jobs and giving each other prizes. I am not sure I agree with Alex Roland when he says the problem is we don't "irritate each other enough". In my opinion, the problem is we don't irritate anyone else. Good scholarship and good teaching ought to be an irritant, a constant challenge to conventional wisdom

and conventional perspectives.

Sharon Ghamari has been involved in a controversy involving the historical interpretation of the Hanford reactor and engineering works, one of the icons of the Cold War and now one of the literal environmental hot-spots of the post Cold War world. She has provided a thoughtful essay on how historians of technology might respond to the challenge of public history. In the spirit of providing a mild irritant, I reproduce its introduction here, and the entire essay in the electronic version of the Newsletter, in hopes of opening up a debate about SHOT's public mission. I will be happy to print replies in future Newsletters, and would particularly welcome personal reflections and experiences.

## Science/Technology Studies Scholars as Public Intellectuals

#### By Sharon Ghamari

Acts of war, terror from the sky, represssion against minorities, government secrecy, censorship and disinformation are happenings which many of us address in our scholarly work. Yet the moment seems right to ask ourselves whether we are public intellectuals and whether we want to be. Are there circumstances in which we would wish to speak in one voice? What is the threshold of importance that would move the body of science studies scholars to collective action? Would we have issued a statement protesting the American bombing of North Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia? Did science studies scholars as a professional society protest America's involvements in the anticommunist wars in the 1980s, in the Nicaraguan counter-revolution, in the civil wars in El Salvador and Guatemala? I don't know the answer to this, but I would not be surprised if the world did not hear from 4S or HSS or SHOT even if some of our members were vitally involved. I am in favor of breaking open the private spaces of our conferences and finding a public voice for science studies scholars.

[This rest of this essay is posted on our web site, www. shot.jhu.edu, in the on-line version of our newsletter]

# International Scholar Essay: THE BEGINNING OF NUCLEAR ENGINEERING: THE CASE OF BARCELONA "FERRAN TALLADA" CHAIR

Francesc X. Barca Salom Centre de Recerca per a la Història de la Tècnica Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

This essay is posted on our web site: www. shot.jhu.edu.

#### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

14-17 Mar

**Steven A. Moore** announces the publication of *Technology* and *Place: Sustainable Architecture and the Blueprint Farm* by the University of Texas Press in July 2001. Paper, ISBN 0-292-75244-X, 260 pgs., 60 b&w illustrations.

**Julie Wosk** announces the publication of her book, *Women* and the Machine: Representations From the Spinning Wheel to the Electronic Age by Johns Hopkins University Press, December 2001.

16-19 Mar

The **20th Annual Mephistos Conference** on Science and Technology History Studies will be held on the campus of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. Contact: Mephistos 2002, Graduate Program in Science and Technology Studies, Virginia Tech, 131 Lane Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0227, Tel.: (540) 231-6547

The National Air & Space Museum will

host its 15th Annual Mutual Concerns

of Air & Space Museums Seminar in Washington, DC.Contact:Jane Pisano, National Air & Space Museum – MRC

310, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC 20560-0310; jane.pisano@nasm.si.edu

#### DISSERTATIONS COMPLETED

Ángel Toca, Spanish Open University, completed his dissertation, "La industria química de los álcalis en España. La empresa Solvay y su planta de Torrelavega (1904-1935)" [The alkali's chemical industry in Spain. Solvay and its Torrelavega's plant (1904-1935)], in September 2001. It was directed by Dr. Agustí Nieto-Galán and Dr. Luis García Ballester, recently deceased. At this time, the author is collaborating with the Unit of History of Science at Cantabria's University.

4-7 Apr

The **Society for Military History** will hold its 69<sup>th</sup> annual meeting at the Monona Terrace in Madison, Wisconsin. This year's theme is "War and Remembrance: Constructing the Military Past and Future." Contact: Jerry Cooper, Department of History, University of Missouri-St. Louis Website: <a href="http://www.smh-hq.org">http://www.smh-hq.org</a>>

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR**

6-9 Mar

The American Association for History and Computing will hold its annual meeting at the Nashville Marriott Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee. This year's theme will be "Reading Clio's Compass: Assessing Where We Are with History and Instructional Technology." Contact: Ken Dvorak, Secretary and Director of Publicity, AAHC, Lansing Community College, Lansing, Michigan, 40010; Email: kdvorak@lansing.cc.mi.us

11-14 Apr

The Organization of American Historians and the National Council on Public History will co-host their respective annual meetings at the Renaissance Washington Hotel in Washington, DC. The theme of their joint sessions will be "Overlapping Diasporas: Encounters and Conversions." Contact: Convention Manager, Organization of American Historians, 112 North Bryan Avenue, Bloomington IN 47408-4199; meetings@oah.org; Website: http://www.oah.org/meetings/index.html

13-15 Mar

The Women in Aviation International 2002 Conference will be held at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee.Contact: Women in Aviation, International, P.O. Box 11287, Daytona Beach, FL USA 32120-1287;Tel.: (386) 226-7996, Fax 226-7998;e-mail: wiai@wiai.org Website: <a href="http://www.wiai.org">http://www.wiai.org</a>

18-20 Apr

The **44th Annual Missouri Conference on History** will convene at the Marriott Crowne Plaza Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. The program will include a special session on the Korean War. Contact: Tim Rives; National Archives-Central Plains Region, 2312 E. Bannister Rd. Kansas City, MO