



# NEWSLETTER

OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY

No. 119, n.s., January 2009

## SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Time for change – yes we can! It is, of course, entirely coincidental that the usual periodic relocation of our SHOT office takes place within a few weeks of Barack Obama's historic inauguration as president of the United States. It's been an honor to host SHOT at Iowa State University, and I'm hoping that our SHOT family will evaluate my tenure as secretary less harshly than I suspect many historians will judge the George W. Bush presidency. Actually, recent years have been very good to SHOT, granting us the intellectual and community joy of marking fifty years of commendable growth in our disciplinary society. But nations and organizations alike gain long-term strength from infusions of fresh energy and fresh thinking. SHOT's new secretary, Bernie Carlson, combines such enthusiasm and dedication with a wealth of SHOT experience that I can only envy, as a source of insightful perspective.

SHOT is an amazing case study in continuity and change. Just over the five years since I took over the secretaryship from Bill Leslie, the role of e-mail, websites, and other communication innovations have dramatically revised our operations, bringing both new opportunities and new pressures. Bernie ably faces the challenge of continuing to update our society's management procedures in ways that take full advantages of technological development while maintaining the personal touch. That's the reward of continuity that SHOT keeps striving to maintain the balance of a community that runs on long-term close relationships but also reaches out to welcome new members. At our Lisbon meeting, for instance, I enjoyed terrific conversations getting to know a historian of Latin American textiles, and I believe we made the experience for this first-time attendee rewarding enough that she may return.

While Cynthia Bennet and I undertake the task of shipping both paper and electronic SHOT records from Iowa to Virginia, SHOT's calendar moves forward into the new year as per usual routine. On our website and in this newsletter, you can find our call for paper proposals for this next fall's conference in Pittsburgh, Oct. 15-19. Pittsburgh is a fabulous natural location for us, with its rich local history of technology, and our former president David Hounshell is keen to host a strong meeting. Please help us spread the word by sharing the call for proposals with graduate students, fellow historians in related disciplines, and contacts in different countries, reminding them also of SHOT's travel grant availability. SHOT is particularly interested in receiving proposals for sessions dealing with pre-nineteenth-century technologies and with multinational/non-Western topics. One more important factor – please note too that SHOT is especially eager to get proposals for

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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*

innovatively designed sessions, including roundtables, workshops, and especially posters. SHOT itself is leading the way toward continued experimentation in productive program construction; elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find information about SHOT's plans for turning over the Sunday structure to SHOT's special interest groups. Steve Usselman and I have been pursuing productive dialogue with our dedicated SIG leaders over recent years about methods for allowing our society to capitalize fully on our SIG strengths. As our meetings in D.C. and Lisbon have shown, many of our SIGs have become increasingly enthusiastic about assembling occasions to focus on and showcase research and discussions in this area, and we hope this Pittsburgh Sunday will facilitate such activity.

Again here at the start of a new calendar year, it's time for the last reminder from me to please take note of SHOT's multiple book prizes, article prizes, fellowships, and other awards. We are always eager to receive more submissions, so please bring these prizes to the attention of students and colleagues, and apply or nominate yourself where appropriate.

For now, though, let me conclude with a last thank-you to all of you, our SHOT members, who have made my job as secretary such a fulfilling experience. We don't exist without your input, your interest, and yes, your pressure on us to keep making SHOT better and better. My gratitude goes out one last time to those of you who have made my work so much easier by giving me your time, as committee members, chairs, or meeting assistants. But my deepest thanks must go to Steve Usselman, Roz Williams, Arne Kaijser, Richard Hirsh, and John Staudenmaier. SHOT has been fortunate to have all of them as excellent leaders over the last four years, who gave more time to our society than few realize and who blended good sense and good humor into good leadership. And I have been fortunate to have them supporting my efforts with not just teamwork but also a friendship that exemplifies the best spirit of SHOT. Finally, all of us owe our heartfelt thanks to Cynthia Bennet, who has kept the SHOT office (and me) on a steady course for five years and been both the heart and hands of our work. Enriched by a uniquely intimate inside knowledge of SHOT, she now gains the freedom to move ahead with her dissertation in our field, unencumbered by demands for mailing out

hundreds of flyers, juggling arrangements for five simultaneous bus tours, or compiling the very newsletter you're looking at now. She and I will be at Pittsburgh, admiring and cheering the superb job that Bernie and Jane will do. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

*Amy Sue Bix*  
Iowa State University

### *Upcoming meetings*

*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*  
*October 15-19, 2009*

*Tacoma, Washington*  
*September 29-October 4, 2010*

#### **ADMIN. ASSISTANT'S MESSAGE**

It hardly seems like five years have passed since I nervously assembled my first SHOT newsletter in 2004. Three years before, I left the history department at Iowa State with my master's degree and plans to pursue opportunities in public history. I was the community programs coordinator at the local historical society when Amy Bix called and asked me to work with her in the SHOT office. I didn't know what SHOT was or did, and when I came into the office I didn't even know how to use the new Mac computer on my desk, so everything was a learning experience.

These five years have presented me with challenges and opportunities I never imagined. Thanks to SHOT I can coordinate buses, meeting space, and meals for

hundreds of people, plan receptions, achieve a reasonable understanding of a hotel contract, compile quarterly newsletters, and field a variety of questions I never expected to be asked. I've had the opportunity to travel to places as near and familiar as the heartland's Minneapolis, and as distant and exotic as Lisbon, Portugal. And let's not forget Las Vegas—in a category by itself! But these years have been so much more. I've gotten to meet some of the most influential and knowledgeable people in the history of technology field, as well as those on their way to becoming influential and knowledgeable—the graduate students and young scholars. You have had a strong and lasting influence on me. I've had the chance to listen to conversations, go to SIG meetings, and even get to a couple of paper sessions at the meetings, and I've been inspired and encouraged by these intellectual exchanges within an inviting and enthusiastic community of scholars and colleagues.

My experiences led me to change my plans. In 2005 I entered the Ph.D. program in the History of Technology and Science here at Iowa State. As I finished my five years as SHOT's administrative assistant this December I also finished my class work. When I complete my field exams in the spring I'll achieve ABD status and be on to my dissertation. Once the office transition is made to Bernie and Jane in Virginia, I'll still be a member of SHOT, and I hope to see all of you at future meetings.

I'd like to say thank-you—to Amy Bix for the opportunity that changed my path; to the Executive Council and officers who guided and encouraged me; to the presses, organizations, museums, hotels, businesses, and their staff and coordinators who helped me do my job and learn so much; and to the many members who sent suggestions and messages of thanks and appreciation to the office. Finally, I'd like to thank my husband Greg, with whom many of you met and talked over the years. His public professionalism and private support and help were valuable beyond measure to the society and to me. I literally could not have done it without him.

Best wishes to all of you in this new year, and I'll see you in Pittsburgh in the fall.

*Cynthia Bennet*  
Iowa State University

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****Textile Society of America**

The Textile Society of America is pleased to announce the recipient of the first Founding Presidents Award presented at its 11th Biennial Symposium. The winner, "Perfumed Textiles" by Katia Johansen, a textile conservator and costume curator at the Royal Danish Collections at Rosenborg Castle in Denmark, was recognized at the gala Banquet and Awards Ceremony on September 26, 2008 in Honolulu, Hawaii. This award, established to recognize excellence in the field of textile studies supports the presentation of outstanding new work at the biennial symposium. All finalists received a monetary travel grant and complimentary conference registration. Included in this exceptional slate of nominees were: "Trade Cloth on American Whaleships, 1820-1870" by Susan Jermome, "Perfumed Textiles" by Katia Johansen, "A Poem is a Robe and a Caste: Inscribing Verses on Textiles and Architecture in the Alhambra" by Olga Bush, "Bristle: Haptic Interfaces" by Ingrid Bachman, and "Suturing Old Wounds: The Act of Sewing in Works by Contemporary American Nations Women Artists" by Cynthia Fowler. These five papers were selected by the Founding Presidents Award Committee composed of Pam Parmal as Chair, Pat Hickman, Vita Plume, Lotus Stack and Susan Brandeis. The next Founding Presidents Award will be granted in Lincoln, Nebraska at the 12<sup>th</sup> Textile Society of America's Biennial Symposium in October 2010. Look for details and deadlines in our membership newsletter or website [www.textilesociety.org](http://www.textilesociety.org).

**Lindqvist Appointment**

Svante Lindqvist has been appointed President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences for a three-year period, beginning in July 2009. Svante Lindqvist is Director of the Nobel Museum and a former Professor of History of Technology at the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awards the Nobel Prizes in Physics and Chemistry and the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. The Academy was founded in 1739 and its first President was Linnaeus.

**WITH TRAVEL AWARD - A Call for "New Voices" in Technological History**

The SHOT Special Interest Group Women in Technological History [WITH] announces its travel award for 2009. The purpose of the award is to encourage participation of "new voices" at the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Technology [SHOT]. WITH invites applications from scholars presenting topics or perspectives underrepresented in SHOT as well as from individuals who can contribute to the annual meeting's geographic and cultural diversity. The 2009 SHOT meeting will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 15-19, 2009. See <http://historyoftechnology.org>.

Eligibility for the WITH Travel Award is open to individuals who are giving a paper at the SHOT annual meeting. Priorities for the WITH award will go to: (1) a scholar or graduate student new to SHOT belonging to a group underrepresented in SHOT, whose paper addresses issues of gender, race, ethnicity, and/or difference in the history of technology; (2) a non-US, non-Western graduate student or scholar new to SHOT presenting on any topic.

The award will include registration for the Pittsburgh meeting, a year's membership to SHOT and WITH, the WITH breakfast or lunch, the graduate student breakfast (if appropriate), and the awards banquet; the balance of funds will be allocated to travel expenses.

Application deadline for the WITH Travel Award is **June 15, 2009**. For more information and the application form, go to the WITH homepage at <http://www.women-in-technological-history.net/> or contact Joan Rothschild, chair of the award committee, at [jrjar@nyc.rr.com](mailto:jrjar@nyc.rr.com).

<b>2008 PRIZE WINNERS</b>
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**Leonardo da Vinci Medal:** Joel Arthur Tarr

**Brooke Hindle Post-Doctoral Fellowship:** Gabriella M. Petrick, "Industrializing Taste: Food Processing and the Transformation of the American Diet."

**2007 Joan Cahalin Robinson Prize:** Kara Swanson, "Human Milk as Technology and Technologies of Human Milk: Milk Banks in the 20<sup>th</sup>-Century United States."

**Samuel Eleazar and Rose Tartakow Levinson Prize:** Christopher Beauchamp, "Who Invented the Telephone? Lawyers, Patents, and the Judgments of History."

**IEEE Life Members' Prize in Electrical Engineering:** Hyungxub Choi, "The Boundaries of Industrial Research: Making Transistors at RCA, 1948-1960."

**Abbott Payson Usher Prize:** Eric Schatzberg, "Technik Comes to America: Changing Meanings of Technology before 1930."

**The Dibner Award:** As Time Goes Byte: Computing and Digital Culture, Museum of Communication, Bern, Switzerland; director Jakob Messerli.

**Sally Hacker Prize:** W. Bernard Carlson, et al, *Technology in World History*.

**Edelstein Prize:** Christine MacLeod, *Heroes of Invention: Technology, Liberalism, and British Identity, 1750-1914*.

**Kranzberg Dissertation Fellowship:** Robert Gardner, "Growing Trees in the Sand Hills: The Nature and Culture of a Technological Forest."

**International Scholars 2008-2009:**

Katja Girschik (Switzerland)  
Seong-Jun Kim (Korea)  
Hugo Palmarola (Chile)  
Srinivasa Rao (India)

**SHOT PRIZES FOR 2009**

The SHOT Prizes will be awarded at the annual meeting in **Pittsburgh, PA October 15-19, 2009**.

For details on submitting nominations for the SHOT prizes, see the website at [www.historyoftechnology.org](http://www.historyoftechnology.org) or contact the Secretary's office at [shot@virginia.edu](mailto:shot@virginia.edu).

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. SHOT invites members to nominate candidates for this year's da Vinci Medal by April 15, 2009. For information on the prize committee, please see the prize webpage at: <http://www.historyoftechnology.org/awards/davinci.html>.

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 2008. Any historical paper published in a learned journal, magazine, or edited volume 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 prize. Please send a copy of the paper to EACH member of the prize committee by **April 15, 2009**. The prize consists of a monetary award and a certificate. The chair of the IEEE committee for 2009 will be Rob MacDougall; for further information on the prize committee, please see the prize webpage on the SHOT website.

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. **One paper copy** should also be sent to the SHOT Office/Secretary, W. Bernard Carlson, Dept. of Science, Technology, and Society, University of Virginia, PO Box 400744, Charlottesville, VA, 22904-4744, USA, and the article should be sent as an email attachment in MS Word or pdf format to [shot@virginia.edu](mailto:shot@virginia.edu). See the website for more information. The closing date for nominations is **April 15, 2009**. The award consists of a monetary award and a certificate. The chair of the Levinson committee for 2009 will be Gabriella Petrick; for further information on the prize committee, please see the prize webpage on the SHOT website.

The Society for the History of Technology invites applications for the **Brooke Hindle Post-Doctoral Fellowship** in the History of Technology for 2009-2010. 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 September 1, 2009 and August 31, 2010. 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, to be received by **April 1, 2009**. The chair of the Hindle committee for 2009 will be Dan Holbrook; for further information on the prize committee, please see the prize webpage on the SHOT website.

SHOT's **International Scholars** program was established in 1992 to foster a stronger international community for the study of the history of technology, to strengthen the Society's role as an international society for the history of technology, to identify and help non-U.S. historians of technology participate in the meetings and governance of the Society, to provide formal recognition for the work of non-U.S. historians of technology, to afford special recognition for younger non-U.S. scholars as they begin their careers, and to foster an international network of scholars in the history of technology that will benefit all members of the Society.

SHOT International Scholars shall be individuals who reside and work outside the United States, and either junior or more advanced scholars. Non-U.S. citizens

currently enrolled in a U.S. graduate program will not be eligible to become International Scholars during the time they are studying in the U.S. but are strongly encouraged to apply for the program once they leave the U.S. Appointments will be for two-year terms beginning each January. International Scholars shall be full members of the Society and receive a complimentary subscription to the Society's journal, *Technology and Culture*, during their term. They will be strongly encouraged to attend the annual meetings during their term.

Individuals may be nominated, or may nominate themselves, by sending a letter and a brief curriculum vitae to EACH member of the committee listed below, along with SHOT secretary Amy Bix. In the letter, applicants should describe how their research contributes to the history of technology.

The International Scholars Committee asks all SHOT members to help identify qualified individuals for this program. Nominations should be sent to the committee chair and should include a brief statement about the individual being nominated (current status, employment, field of interest, etc.) and a FAX number or electronic mail address so the committee can contact candidates if necessary. Self-nomination is encouraged. Please send these materials to EACH member of the committee and to SHOT secretary W. Bernard Carlson. The appointment of each year's new International Scholars shall be announced at the Society's annual meeting. For further detail on this prize and how to submit an application, please see the International Scholars webpage on the SHOT website at:

<http://www.historyoftechnology.org/awards/scholars.html>. The application deadline is **April 15, 2009**.

Presenters at the 2009 annual meeting of the Society for the History of Technology are invited to nominate their presentations for the **2009 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. The Robinson Prize consists of a monetary award and a certificate. Those wishing to nominate themselves for the prize should submit their paper or panel proposal to the SHOT program committee following the standard procedures in the Call for

Papers. After you receive word from SHOT's program committee that your paper has been accepted for the 2009 SHOT conference, please send the Robinson Prize entry form (available as PDF or MS Word), along with an abstract of your paper and a 1-page curriculum vita to **each member** of the Robinson prize committee. Please also send one copy of this material to the Secretary at the SHOT Office, Dept. of Science, Technology, and Society, University of Virginia, PO Box 400744, Charlottesville, VA, 22904-4744 or [shot@virginia.edu](mailto:shot@virginia.edu). Please be certain to confirm your status as a graduate student or a recent PhD. The deadline for the Call for Papers is **March 30, 2009**. The deadline for the committee members to receive the Robinson entry material is **July 1, 2009**. For further detail on this prize, please see the Robinson webpage on the SHOT website at:

<http://www.historyoftechnology.org/awards/robinson.html>.

The **Edelstein Prize** is awarded by SHOT to the author of an **outstanding scholarly book** in the history of technology published during the period 2006-2008. Non-English books are eligible for three years following the date of their English translation. Previously known as the Dexter Prize, the Edelstein Prize was established in 1968 through the generosity of the late Sidney Edelstein, a noted expert on the history of dyes and dye processes, founder of the Dexter Chemical Corporation, and 1988 recipient of SHOT's Leonardo da Vinci Award. The prize, donated by Ruth Edelstein Barish and her family in memory of Sidney Edelstein and his commitment to excellence in scholarship in the history of technology, consists of a monetary award and a plaque. Publishers and authors are invited to nominate titles for this prize. To nominate a book send one copy to each of the members of the committee. The deadline for the receipt of books is **April 1, 2009**. The chair of the Edelstein committee for 2009 will be Eda Kranakis; for further information on the prize committee, please see the prize webpage on the SHOT website.

The **Sally Hacker Prize** is awarded for the **best popular book** in the history of technology published during the period 2006-2008. The prize, consisting of a monetary award 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. To nominate a book send one copy to each of the members of the committee. The deadline for the receipt of books is **April 1, 2009**. The chair of the Hacker committee for 2009 will be Chris MacLeod; for further information on the prize committee, please see the prize webpage on the SHOT website.

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 \$4000 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, etc. 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 the doctorate except for the dissertation by September 1, 2009. The deadline for application is **April 15, 2009**. The chair of the Kranzberg committee for 2009 will be Mark Finlay; for further information on the prize committee, please see the prize webpage on the SHOT website.

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 chair of the 2009 Usher committee will be Jack Brown; for further information on the prize committee, please see the prize webpage on the SHOT website.

The **Eugene S. Ferguson Prize** for outstanding and original reference work that will support future scholarship in the history of technology was awarded for the first time at the SHOT Annual Meeting in

Minneapolis, Minnesota in November 2005. The Ferguson Prize recognizes work that is in the tradition of scholarly excellence established by Eugene S. Ferguson (1916-2004), SHOT's pioneering bibliographer, a founding member of the Society, museum curator and exhibit catalog author, editor, annotator, university professor, and scholar of the history of engineering and technology. The prize consists of a plaque and a cash award of \$2500. Submissions and nominations for the following types of reference and scholarly works and tools will be considered for the Ferguson Prize: bibliographies, biographical dictionaries, critical editions of primary source materials in English, exhibition catalogues, guides to the field of the history of technology, historical dictionaries and encyclopedias, subject guides to archival repositories and library sources, topical atlases, translated works (into English) with substantial annotation and other scholarly apparatus, and works that extend beyond the printed text (CDs, World Wide Web sites, electronic databases and tools) but still exhibit a degree of permanence similar to that of books.

Works published in the four calendar years prior to the year of the award are eligible for consideration. Publication date shall be interpreted as the year in which the work to be considered first appeared (i.e. first edition, first issuance, first availability, first uploading to the World Wide Web, etc.) All works considered must be in English. Only works produced by currently living individuals or groups are eligible for consideration. For more information about nominating a publication or other eligible work for this retrospective award, please contact the Secretary's office.

The Ferguson Prize will be awarded every other year. Winners will be selected by a prize committee constituted similar in structure and membership to other major SHOT prizes.

Publishers, authors, and SHOT members are invited to nominate titles for this prize. To nominate a book, catalogue, etc. please send one copy to each of the committee members listed below. To nominate a work in alternative form (CD, website, database) please contact committee chair Merritt Roe Smith. The deadline for receipt of books and other nominated material is **April 1, 2009**. For further

detail on this prize, please see the Ferguson prize webpage on the SHOT website at:

<http://www.historyoftechnology.org/awards/ferguson.html>.

### **Associated General Contractors Centennial Book**

The Associated General Contractors of America, an organization representing the general contracting industry, will be celebrating the centennial of its founding in 2018. For this event, the AGC is commissioning a new history of the organization and its accomplishments. They are seeking an author to write this book. If you are interested in receiving the RFQ for this writing project, please email Monica Cardenas at [cardenasm@agc.org](mailto:cardenasm@agc.org) before **February 16th 2009**.

Contacting the new SHOT office:

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Administrative Assistant: Jane Carlson

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***Deadline for Paper Proposals for  
SHOT's Annual Meeting in  
October 2009:  
March 30, 2009***

***See website for details***



## **Journals under Threat: A Joint Response from History of Science, Technology and Medicine Editors**

We live in an age of metrics. All around us, things are being standardized, quantified, measured. Scholars concerned with the work of science and technology must regard this as a fascinating and crucial practical, cultural and intellectual phenomenon. Analysis of the roots and meaning of metrics and metrology has been a preoccupation of much of the best work in our field for the past quarter century at least. As practitioners of the interconnected disciplines that make up the field of science studies we understand how significant, contingent and uncertain can be the process of rendering nature and society in grades, classes and numbers.

We now confront a situation in which our own research work is being subjected to putatively precise accountancy by arbitrary and unaccountable agencies. Some may already be aware of the proposed European Reference Index for the Humanities (ERIH), an initiative originating with the European Science Foundation. The ERIH is an attempt to grade journals in the humanities – including “history and philosophy of science”. The initiative proposes a league table of academic journals, with premier, second and third divisions. According to the European Science Foundation, ERIH “aims initially to identify, and gain more visibility for, top-quality European Humanities research published in academic journals in, potentially, all European languages”. It is hoped “that ERIH will form the backbone of a fully-fledged research information system for the Humanities”. What is meant, however, is that ERIH will provide funding bodies and other agencies in Europe and elsewhere with an allegedly exact measure of research quality. In short, if research is published in a premier league journal it will be recognized as first rate; if it appears somewhere in the lower divisions, it will be rated (and not funded) accordingly.

This initiative is entirely defective in conception and execution. Consider the major issues of accountability and transparency. The process of producing the graded list of journals in science studies was overseen by a committee of four (the membership is currently listed at <http://www.esf.org/research-areas/humanities/research-infrastructures-including-erih/erih-governance-and-panels/erih-expert-panels.html>). This committee cannot be considered representative. It was not selected in consultation with any of the various disciplinary organizations that currently represent our field such as the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health, the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the British Society for the History of Science, the History of Science Society, the Philosophy of Science Association, the Society for the History of Technology or the Society for Social Studies of Science. Journal editors were only belatedly informed of the process and its relevant criteria or asked to provide any information regarding their publications. No indication has been given of the means through which the list was compiled; nor how it might be maintained in the future.

The ERIH depends on a fundamental misunderstanding of conduct and publication of research in our field, and in the humanities in general. Journals’ quality cannot be separated from their contents and their review processes. Great research may be published anywhere and in any language. Truly ground-breaking work may be more likely to appear from marginal, dissident or unexpected sources, rather than from a well-established and entrenched mainstream. Our journals are various, heterogeneous and distinct. Some are aimed at a broad, general and international readership, others are more specialized in their content and implied audience. Their scope and readership say nothing about the quality of their intellectual content. The ERIH, on the other hand, confuses internationality with quality in a way that is particularly prejudicial to specialist and non-English language journals. In a recent report, the British Academy, with judicious understatement, concludes that “the European Reference Index for the Humanities as presently conceived does not represent a reliable way in which metrics of peer-reviewed publications can be constructed” (Peer Review: the Challenges for the Humanities and Social Sciences, September 2007: <http://www.britac.ac.uk/reports/peer-review>). Such exercises as ERIH can become self-fulfilling prophecies. If such measures as ERIH are adopted as metrics by funding and other agencies, then many in our field will conclude that they have little choice other than to limit their publications to journals in the premier division. We will sustain fewer journals, much less diversity and impoverish our discipline.

Along with many others in our field, this Journal has concluded that we want no part of this dangerous and misguided exercise. This joint Editorial is being published in journals across the fields of history of science and science studies as an expression of our collective dissent and our refusal to allow our field to be managed and appraised in this fashion. We have asked the compilers of the ERIH to remove our journals' titles from their lists.

HANNE ANDERSEN (*Centaurus*)  
ROGER ARIEW & MOTI FEINGOLD (*Perspectives on Science*)  
A. K. BAG (*Indian Journal of History of Science*)  
JUNE BARROW-GREEN & BENNO VAN DALEN (*Historia Mathematica*)  
KEITH BENSON (*History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*)  
MARCO BERETTA (*Nuncius*)  
MICHEL BLAY (*Revue d'Histoire des Sciences*)  
JOHANNA BLEKER (*Medizinhistorisches Journal*)  
CORNELIUS BORCK (*Berichte zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte*)  
GEOF BOWKER & SUSAN LEIGH STAR (*Science, Technology and Human Values*)  
WILLIAM R. BRICE (*Oil-Industry History*)  
MASSIMO BUCCIANINI & MICHELE CAMEROTA (*Galilaeana: Journal of Galilean Studies*)  
JED BUCHWALD & JEREMY GRAY (*Archive for History of Exact Sciences*)  
VINCENZO CAPPELLETTI & GUIDO CIMINO (*Physis*)  
CATHRYN CARSON (*Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences*)  
ANNAMARIA CIARALLO & GIOVANNI DI PASQUALE (*Automata. Journal of Nature, Science and Technics in the Ancient World*)  
MARK CLARK & ALEX KELLER (*ICON*)  
ROGER CLINE (*International Journal for the History of Engineering & Technology*)  
STEPHEN CLUCAS & STEPHEN GAUKROGER (*Intellectual History Review*)  
HAL COOK & ANNE HARDY (*Medical History*)  
LEO CORRY, ALEXANDRE MÉTRAUX & JÜRGEN RENN (*Science in Context*)  
BRIAN DOLAN & BILL LUCKIN (*Social History of Medicine*)  
HILMAR DUERBECK & WAYNE ORCHISTON (*Journal of Astronomical History & Heritage*)  
MORITZ EPPLE, MIKAEL HÅRD, HANS-JÖRG RHEINBERGER & VOLKER ROELCKE (*NTM: Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Wissenschaften, Technik und Medizin*)  
PAUL FARBER (*Journal of the History of Biology*)  
MARY FISSELL & RANDALL PACKARD (*Bulletin of the History of Medicine*)  
ROBERT FOX (*Notes & Records of the Royal Society*)  
MARINA FRASCA SPADA (*Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*)  
STEVEN FRENCH (*Metascience*)  
ENRICO GIUSTI (*Bollettino di Storia delle Scienze Matematiche*)  
JIM GOOD (*History of the Human Sciences*)  
WILLEM HACKMANN (*Bulletin of the Scientific Instrument Society*)  
ROBERT HALLEUX (*Archives Internationales d'Histoire des Sciences*)  
BOSSE HOLMQVIST (*Lychnos*)  
ROD HOME (*Historical Records of Australian Science*)  
MICHAEL HOSKIN (*Journal for the History of Astronomy*)  
IAN INKSTER (*History of Technology*)  
NICK JARDINE (*Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*)  
TREVOR LEVERE (*Annals of Science*)  
BERNARD LIGHTMAN (*Isis*)  
CHRISTOPH LÜTHY (*Early Science and Medicine*)  
MICHAEL LYNCH (*Social Studies of Science*)  
STEPHEN MCCLUSKEY & CLIVE RUGGLES (*Archaeoastronomy: The Journal of Astronomy in Culture*)  
PETER MORRIS (*Ambix*)

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IWAN RHYS MORUS (*History of Science*)  
E. CHARLES NELSON (*Archives of Natural History*)  
IAN NICHOLSON (*Journal of the History of the Behavioural Sciences*)  
KATHY OLESKO (*Osiris*)  
LILIANE PÉREZ (*Documents pour l'Histoire des Techniques*)  
JOHN RIGDEN & ROGER H STUEWER (*Physics in Perspective*)  
JULIO SAMSÓ (*Suhayl: Journal for the History of the Exact and Natural Sciences in Islamic Civilisation*)  
SIMON SCHAFFER (*British Journal for the History of Science*)  
NORBERT SCHAPPACHER (*Revue d'Histoire des Mathématiques*)  
JOHN STAUDENMAIER SJ (*Technology and Culture*)  
CLAIRE STROM (*Agricultural History*)  
PAUL UNSCHULD (*Sudhoffs Archiv*)  
PETER WEINGART (*Minerva*)  
MICHIO YANO & KEN SAITO (*SCIAMVS*)  
STEFAN ZAMECKI (*Kwartalnik Historii Nauki i Techniki*)  
HUIB ZUIDERVAART (*Studium: Tijdschrift voor Wetenschaps- en Universiteitgeschiedenis / Revue de l'Histoire des Sciences et des Universités*)

October 29, 2008

Hélène Dauphin  
European Reference Index for the Humanities  
**European Science Foundation**  
1, quai Lezay-Marnésia  
B.P. 90015  
67080 Strasbourg cedex  
France

Dear Ms. Dauphin:

After considerable discussion, I and the Executive Council of the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) decided that we would add *Technology and Culture (T&C)* to the list of those signing the editorial titled "Journals under Threat: A Joint Response from History of Science, Technology and Medicine Editors." I am writing you to clarify my intention in signing. I do not agree with the editorial's final sentence ("We have asked the compilers of the ERIH to remove our journals' titles from their lists."). SHOT's Executive Council understands that the ranking process which ESF has inaugurated can have a positive influence in guiding scholars and academic programs with a broad based ranking system covering many journals in the humanities. Therefore we do not expect ESF to remove *Technology and Culture* from the ERIH listings. We have taken steps -- I as Editor and SHOT as T&C's fiduciary body -- to argue that our A ranking as a historical journal should be matched with an A ranking as a journal of history and philosophy of science, steps we would not have taken if we wanted to be removed from the ranking process.

Nevertheless I signed the editorial. Like the authors and signers of the editorial we disagree sharply with the methodology of the ranking process. If ERIH is to achieve its intended purpose it must establish a reputation for

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impeccable care in what is essentially a journal refereeing process. Thus I agree with almost every line in "Journals Under Threat" but in particular want to call attention to paragraph two which articulates what I see as the heart of our objection to the ERIH as presently conducted.

"This initiative is entirely defective in conception and execution. Consider the major issues of accountability and transparency. The process of producing the graded list of journals in science studies was overseen by a committee of four (the membership is currently listed at <http://www.esf.org/research-areas/humanities/research-infrastructures-including-erih/erih-governance-and-panels/erih-expert-panels.html>). This committee cannot be considered representative. It was not selected in consultation with any of the various disciplinary organizations that currently represent our field such as BSHS, HSS, PSA, SHOT or SSSS. Only in June 2008 were journal editors belatedly informed of the process and its relevant criteria or asked to provide any information regarding their publications. No indication has been given of the means through which the list was compiled; nor how it might be maintained in the future."

Like my fellow editors, I look forward to hearing that ESF has heard these objections from a large number of key scholarly journals in science and technology studies and has publicly announced a radically revised methodology.

Sincerely,

John M. Staudenmaier sj  
Editor: *Technology and Culture*

p.s. I will also post this on the website of the Society for the History of Technology.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Writing this message is my first task as president of SHOT. In fact, for editorial reasons, I write it already in the beginning of December before officially having taken office. It feels solemn formulating this president's message, realizing that I am the first non-American to do so. Entrusting the presidency to a non-American is a symbolic step in SHOT's strives towards internationalization.

Every other year there is a change of the guards of SHOT, with a new president and new vice-president taking office. However this year the change is considerably bigger as a new secretary, Bernie Carlson, and a new treasurer, Hugh Gorman, are stepping in as well. It will not be easy for us new officers to replace our predecessors who have gained so much experience and have done such marvellous jobs. But before leaving office they have done their best to prepare us for navigating the SHOT vessel. Luckily enough there is one officer with long time experience left on the captain's bridge, John Staudenmaier, and I am sure that also Steve Usselman can assist with piloting if needed. Together with the Executive Council and all the crew in the various SHOT committees we are now setting sails for further journeys on the academic oceans.

SHOT is now entering the second half of its first century. We have two years of wonderful celebrations behind us. In Washington the focus was on *looking back*, and this was partly done with the help of many of our most senior members, one of whom, Tom Hughes, could even tell us about the actual founding of our society. In Lisbon the emphasis was on *looking beyond* and here the very location of the meeting was symbolic, close to the harbour from which Vasco da Gama and other sailors left half a millennium ago on daring voyages beyond the shores and seas that were familiar to them. At the opening plenary session, professor Sanjay Subrahmanyam from UCLA gave a fascinating account of the Asian perspective on the encounter with these European voyagers. Furthermore, the program of the meeting had a wider geographical scope than ever before. The multitude of perspectives and experiences that this brought along invigorated the discussions.

The slogan of the anniversary was also applied by the Executive Council during its spring meeting in Detroit in April of 2008. At this meeting the Council devoted a full day to a "Beacon discussion" when it discussed the future challenges and possibilities for our society against the background of its legacy. This Beacon discussion was an ambitious exercise skilfully organized by Steve Usselman. In advance the council members first identified which questions they wanted to be discussed, and then each member wrote answers to the chosen questions that were distributed before the actual meeting. These questions dealt with the role of learned societies such as SHOT, the relative importance of SHOT's current activities, the options for enhanced internationalization and for outreach to other communities, how we can attract more attention to our field from other historians, and more generally what new opportunities for SHOT that we see. Very many good ideas came up during the lively discussions that we had in Detroit.

The Executive Council has decided to continue this strategic discussion about the future for our Society at its spring meeting in 2009 that will take place in Stockholm. This time we will take the core activities of SHOT as our starting point, and focus the discussions on how these activities could be enhanced to achieve some of opportunities that were discussed in Detroit. We will look at: annual meetings (and possibly other kinds of meetings); publications (T&C, AHA booklets) and the website; SHOT's support to SIGs and other kinds of cooperation; the internal organization of SHOT. Ad hoc groups will prepare discussion notes on each of these activities before we meet in Stockholm.

I want to invite anyone reading this column that has opinions on these issues to send in ideas and suggestions. If you send them to (the new secretarial e-mail address) before March 1, than we can take your ideas into account at the spring meeting.

I firmly believe that these ongoing discussions about future possibilities will give us that are now in command on the SHOT vessel a beacon light at the horizon to aim for.

*Arne Kaijser*  
Royal Institute of Technology

## FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

**PACHS**—the Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science—offers one- or two-month Dissertation Research Fellowships and nine-month Dissertation Writing Fellowships for students in the history of science, technology and medicine. PACHS will facilitate fellows' access to libraries and archives in the Philadelphia area. Additional support for research at the Niels Bohr Library and Archives at the American Institute of Physics is also available. The fellowship stipend is \$20,000 for nine months' residence at PACHS. Fellows are expected to spend the academic year at PACHS, to participate in PACHS events, and to present a paper or dissertation chapter as part of the PACHS colloquium series. Fellows will use offices in the PACHS facility in Center City Philadelphia and will have ready access to events and activities at PACHS member institutions and throughout Philadelphia's vibrant academic and cultural communities.

These fellowships are intended for students who wish to use the collections of two or more institutions in the PACHS consortium. The fellowship stipend is \$2,000 per month for students who reside more than 75 miles from Philadelphia or \$1,000 per month for students who reside closer. Fellows are expected to conduct research at all listed collections for one or two months continuously between 1 September 2009 and 31 April 2010. Toward the end of their residence, fellows will be asked to present an informal discussion of their work to an audience of local scholars and other PACHS fellows. Candidates who will use collections at multiple PACHS institutions will receive strong preference. Candidates who live 75 or more miles from Philadelphia will receive some preference.

PACHS is funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation, and fellowships are available to Ph.D. candidates who are U.S. nationals or students at U.S. institutions. PACHS fellowships may be held sequentially with fellowships offered separately by PACHS member institutions but may not be held concurrently.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to determine relevance of collections to their projects by making inquiries directly to PACHS member institutions

before applying. Applications for academic 2009-2010 must be submitted online by **February 11, 2009**. Applicants must submit a 100-word abstract, a Curriculum Vitae and a project proposal, limited to 1500 words, describing the research project and how it will advance scholarship in the history of science, technology or medicine. In addition, each applicant must ask two recognized scholars to submit letters of support through the same web site by the same deadline.

A panel of independent distinguished scholars will evaluate proposals.

### Bakken Travel Grants

Scholars and artists are invited to apply for travel fellowships and grants, which the Bakken Library and Museum in Minneapolis offers to encourage research in its collection of books, journals, manuscripts, prints, and instruments. The awards are to be used to help defray the expenses of travel, subsistence, and other direct costs of conducting research at the Bakken.

Visiting Research Fellowships are awarded up to a maximum of \$1,500; the minimum period of residence is two weeks, and preference is given to researchers who are interested in collaborating informally for a day or two with Bakken staff during their research visit. Research Travel Grants are awarded up to a maximum of \$500 (domestic) and \$750 (foreign); the minimum period of residence is one week.

The next application deadline for either type of research assistance is **February 20, 2009**. For more details 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)  
[www.thebakken.org](http://www.thebakken.org)

<b>CALL FOR PAPERS</b>
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**SHOT 2009—PITTSBURGH**

The Society for the History of Technology will hold its annual meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15–19 October 2009. The Program Committee invites paper and panel proposals on any topic in the history of technology, broadly defined. Sessions dealing with pre-19<sup>th</sup> century technologies are particularly welcome. Of special interest for 2009 are proposals that engage the two following themes:

**Reform(ed) Technologies:** While Pittsburgh often brings to historically prone minds images of coke works and heavy industrial pollution, the city is consistently ranked high in livability surveys of American cities and smokestacks no longer dominate the skyline. At a moment when decaying infrastructure is a major topic of public discussion and large promised investment, Pittsburgh looks the right place for historians of technology to reconsider linear tales of innovation or destruction. We are interested both in the ways technologies are reformed and on the historical development of technologies for reform. Environmental technologies are an obvious topic, but the theme also welcomes contributions on urban renewal, new uses of old technologies, and issues of maintenance.

**Circulation of Technology:** We encourage proposals dealing with the geographical circulation of technology that discard traditional diffusion models. We are interested in the relevance of local contexts to accounts of how technologies circulate at the global scale. We hope that focused engagement with such questions will also contribute to SHOT's ongoing efforts to build a more inclusive and diverse cosmopolitan community.

The Program Committee's highest priority in evaluating paper and panel proposals is scholarly excellence. The Committee welcomes proposals for individual papers or sessions, as well as works-in-progress from researchers of all stripes (including graduate students, chaired professors, and independent scholars). It welcomes proposals from those new to SHOT, regardless of discipline. Multinational, international, and cross-institutional sessions are also desirable. We especially encourage

proposals from non-Western scholars. For the 2009 meeting the Program Committee also encourages unconventional sessions, that is session formats that vary in useful ways from the typical three/four papers with comment. These might include round-table sessions, workshop-style sessions with papers that are pre-circulated electronically, or "author meets critics" sessions. Panel organizers may choose either to have a commentator or to add one more paper. We also welcome poster proposals for presentation in poster sessions.

The deadline for proposals is **March 30, 2009**. Please submit your proposals to [tiago.saraiva@ics.ul.pt](mailto:tiago.saraiva@ics.ul.pt)

Proposals for individual papers must include:

1. a one-page abstract (maximum 600 words)
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 that explains how individual papers contribute to an overall theme.
2. the names and paper titles of the presenters
3. for each presenter, a one-page summary (maximum 600 words) of the paper's topic, argument(s), and evidence used
4. for the commentator, chair, and each presenter: one-page c.v., with postal and e-mail addresses

Please indicate if a proposal is sponsored by one of SHOT's special interest groups.

**Submission Instructions**

1. Materials should be sent as a single text attachment to an e-mail message to the Program Committee Chair, Tiago Saraiva, at [tiago.saraiva@ics.ul.pt](mailto:tiago.saraiva@ics.ul.pt).
2. Proposals for complete sessions as well as individual papers shall be submitted in one file.

3. Please adhere to the 600-word limit for each paper. Use no unusual fonts or special formatting, and save your attachment either as a Microsoft Word document (.doc) or as a Rich Text Format (.rtf) file. Nearly all word processing programs, including those used on the Macintosh, can save text in the Rich Text Format. Do not use Adobe Acrobat (pdf).

4. Name your attachment with your last name and the word 'proposal', e.g. 'Smith\_proposal.doc'.

5. A session organizer should also deliver a description of the overall session. If you are organizing a session and proposing a paper in that session, you will be delivering both an "abstract" and "proposal", plus your c.v.

6. If you are proposing a non-traditional session you may indicate that in the "abstract." These also require a curriculum vitae.

#### **General information:**

While SHOT rules exclude multiple submissions (i.e. submitting more than one individual paper proposal, or proposing both an individual paper and a paper as part of a session), scholars may both propose a paper and serve as a commentator or session chair.

Presenting at the 2008 meeting will not rule out presenting in 2009.

### **Change at SHOT Pittsburgh Meeting**

In Pittsburgh, SHOT will be experimenting with a new format of turning over our Sunday morning program slots to our Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and associated groups, for some to organize their own paper sessions, workshops, roundtables, or other events. If you are involved with one of our SIGs or wish to be, please watch for news of this from your SIG officers or contact them for more information (contact info for SIGs is available through the SHOT webpage). We welcome rich creative ideas.

### **Understanding Markets: Information, Institutions and History**

Sponsored by the Hagley Museum and Library and German Historical Institute  
October 30 and 31, 2009 in Wilmington, Delaware,

To recognize the contributions of Austrian immigrant and market analyst Ernest Dichter, and to celebrate the opening of his rich business records, the Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, Delaware and German Historical Institute in Washington D.C. jointly invite proposals for the conference, "Understanding Markets: Information, Institutions and History" October 30 and 31, 2009 at Hagley.

Since markets are not transparent to those engaged in them, and change continually over time, understanding markets is a complex process that involves a wide range of individuals and institutions. This conference invites historically grounded contributions that explore the practices and institutions through which such efforts have proceeded in Europe and North America, ca. 1750-2000. Papers may consider many aspects of efforts to understand markets, such as the acquisition, dissemination, cost and reliability of information; institutionalization of research activities; the impact of secrecy, deception, bias, and misinformation; the influence of market research on production and marketing decisions; conceptual or theoretical foundations and assumptions; and instructive failures or informative successes. We encourage proposals to address who was engaged in efforts to understand markets, whether individuals such as salesmen, merchants, researchers, or purchasing officers; organizations, including firms, agencies, and consortia; or third party institutions, e.g. trade associations, information providers, and governments.

The conveners are Roger Horowitz and Philip Scranton from the Hagley Museum and Library and Hartmut Berghoff and Uwe Spiekermann from the German Historical Institute.

Proposals should be no more than 500 words and accompanied by a short cv. Deadline for submissions is **March 31, 2009**. Travel support is available for those presenting papers at the conference.



To submit a proposal or to obtain more information, contact Carol Lockman, Hagley Museum and Library, PO Box 3630, Wilmington DE 19807,

Phone: 302-658-2400, ext. 243;

Fax: 302-655-3188

[clockman@Hagley.org](mailto:clockman@Hagley.org).

**American Society for Engineering Education  
ASEE Spring 2009 Northeast Conference**

University of Bridgeport

April 3-4, 2009

The Spring 2009 Northeast ASEE Conference will be held on April 3-4, 2009 at the University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Connecticut, USA. This year's conference theme is: Engineering in the New Global Economy.

In the coming years, our world will continue to face economical, environmental and energy related problems. How is Engineering and Engineering Technology Education responding to the needs of our society and the world? This will be the theme for an exhilarating and thought-provoking weekend of professional workshops, presentations, and discussions at the University of Bridgeport.

The ASEE Northeast Section is soliciting faculty papers, student papers and student posters that address the various challenges and paradigms in this technological world through research and instructional programs in Engineering and Engineering Technology education. There are three conference tracks: regular/ faculty papers, student papers and student posters.

The deadline for abstract submission is February 27th, 2009. Prospective authors are invited to submit their abstracts online in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format through the conference website at <http://www.asee2009online.org>.

Suggested conference topics are listed below. Other innovations in course and laboratory experiences and assessments are also most welcome for submission:

Chemical and Biological Engineering, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Engineering Technology/Community

Colleges, Industrial, Automation and Manufacturing Engineering, Innovations In Engineering Education, First Year Experiences, K-12 Education (Engineering Curriculum Integration), Mechanical Engineering Computer Science and Information Technology, Women in Engineering and Computer Science, Robotics, Service Learning, Sustainability, Design Projects, Engineering and Technology in the Liberal Arts, Systems Engineering, Globalization, Ethics, Diversity In Engineering, Multidisciplinary Research

Paper Submission:

Prospective authors are invited to submit their abstracts online in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format through the website of the conference at

<http://www.asee2009online.org> Abstracts due

**February 27, 2009**; Acceptance notification March 6, 2009; Final manuscript & Registration March 20, 2009.

Prof. Navarun Gupta  
ASEE NE 2009 General Chair  
University of Bridgeport  
221 University Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06604, U.S.A.  
Email: [info@asee2009online.org](mailto:info@asee2009online.org)  
<http://www.asee2009online.org>

***VULCAN***  
***JOURNAL OF THE SOCIAL HISTORY***  
***OF MILITARY TECHNOLOGY***

to be published by Brill Publishers, Leiden.  
Volume 1, number 1, is slated for publication in  
2010.

**Call for Articles**

*Vulcan: Journal of the Social History of Military Technology* offers a new venue for historians and social scientists to publish their research on the history of military technologies in their social or cultural contexts. Academic and public interest in the history of military technology has always been substantial, but has usually been expressed in terms of weaponry, warships, fortifications, or other physical manifestations of warfare, with emphasis mainly on how they were made or how they worked, often in antiquarian detail. Writers in the field have

also tended to assume a strictly utilitarian and rational basis for military technological invention and innovation. However indispensable such approaches may be, they largely ignore some very important questions. What are the contexts of social values, attitudes, and interests, non- military as well as military, that shape and support (or oppose) these technologies? What are the consequences of gender, race, class, and other aspects of the social order for the nature and use of military technology? Or, more generally: How do social and cultural environments within the military itself or in the larger society affect military technological change? And the indispensable corollary: How does changing military technology affect other aspects of society and culture? In brief, we want to see articles that address military technology as both agent and object of social change.

We propose to cast a wide net, taking a very broad view of technology and its wider ramifications that includes not only the production, distribution, use, and replacement of weapons and weapon systems, but also communications, logistic, medical, and other technologies of military relevance. We seek articles about representations of weapons as well as weapons themselves, about ideas as well as hardware, about organization as well as materiel. We seek articles that explore ways in which social class, race, gender, culture, economics, or other extra-military factors have influenced and been influenced by the invention, R&D, diffusion, or use of weapons or other military technologies. We hope to publish articles with many times and places; in particular, we welcome articles on non-Western and pre-modern topics. We seek articles that address the roles that military technologies play in shaping and reshaping the relationships of soldiers to other soldiers; soldiers to military, political, and social institutions; and military institutions to other social institutions, most notably political and economic. We also welcome articles on historiographical or museological topics that address how military technology has been analyzed, interpreted, and understood in other fields, other cultures, and other times.

Articles for *Vulcan* must address some aspect of military technology and of social or cultural history. Excluded from our purview will be articles on the strictly technical development of particular pieces of military hardware or purely operational histories of their use. Social history of the military will not be

accepted unless it obviously addresses technological matters or the author explains how his or her subject should be considered technologically relevant. We anticipate the appearance of the first issue in spring 2010. Please send your submissions, electronically if possible, to either of the editors:

Bart Hacker: [hacker@si.edu](mailto:hacker@si.edu) or Steve Walton: [saw23@psu.edu](mailto:saw23@psu.edu). If electronic submission is not feasible, contact one of the editors about how to proceed.

### NEWS OF MEMBERS

Cheryl R. Ganz announces the publication of her new book, *The 1933 Chicago World's Fair: A Century of Progress* (University of Illinois Press, 2008), a social-cultural study of Chicago's second world's fair.

## Ensure SHOT's Second Half-Century

### Donate to the Editorial Endowment Campaign

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# Science for the Empire



## Science for the Empire *Scientific Nationalism in Modern Japan*

HIROMI MIZUNO

This fascinating study examines the discourse of science in Japan from the 1920s to the 1940s in relation to nationalism and imperialism. How did Japan, with Shinto creation mythology at the absolute core of its national identity,

come to promote the advancement of science and technology? Using what logic did wartime Japanese embrace both the rationality that denied and the nationalism that promoted this mythology?

“A very important contribution to Japanese intellectual and social history. Mizuno’s book will require historians and social scientists of Japan to consider further the importance of the natural sciences, nationalism, and discourses about them for the larger field of study.”

—James Bartholomew,  
The Ohio State University

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology

It takes everyone at MIT to be MIT.

## Postdoctoral Fellowship in Energy and Society

The MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI), established in September 2006, is an Institute-wide initiative designed to help transform the global energy system to meet the needs of the future and to help build a bridge to that future by improving today’s energy systems. As part of this important effort, the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences will offer a two-year postdoctoral fellowship (with a possible third year) in Energy and Society, effective 1 July 2009. Candidates must have a Ph.D. in history, economics, political science, history and/or social studies of science and technology, or anthropology. This postdoctoral fellowship will help the candidate develop a project that concerns energy production, consumption, or regulation in a broad context. The successful candidate will develop an undergraduate class on energy and society, teach one class per year in the relevant department, and will work with departmental and Institute colleagues to conceive and sponsor a workshop and other activities on energy issues that would benefit the discipline and the social study of energy at MIT.

Applications should include a cover letter, research proposal (2 pages maximum), *curriculum vitae*, and three letters of recommendation to:

Dean Deborah Fitzgerald,  
School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, E51-255,  
77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139

Applications must be received by 15 January 2009.

MIT is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Applications from women, minorities, veterans, older workers, and individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged.

For more information about the MIT School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences please go to: <http://web.mit.edu/shass/>

<http://web.mit.edu>



Massachusetts, USA

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

## Head, Department of Humanities and Arts

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) invites applications and nominations for the position of Head of the Humanities and Arts Department. The university seeks an individual with proven excellence in teaching, scholarship, and leadership in administration, including the ability to work creatively across departments and disciplines in curricular innovations and resource acquisition. Potential candidates must have an earned doctorate or equivalent terminal degree in a discipline currently represented in the Humanities and Arts Department and a record of scholarly and professional achievement appropriate for appointment with tenure at the senior level in one of these areas. WPI is eager to hear from women and underrepresented minorities concerning this position.

The new head will have opportunities to direct program growth, as WPI intends to expand its curricular offerings in humanities and arts, particularly in areas where they interact with science, technology, and new media. WPI recently created an innovative major in Interactive Media and Game Development with Humanities and Arts taking a lead role. The university has also established a new Bachelor of Arts degree. A major in Liberal Arts and Engineering has been approved, and the department is considering further programs.

The department includes 26 tenured and tenure-track faculty members in the fields of art including digital media and the history of art and architecture, English including drama/theatre, modern languages (German and Spanish), music, history including history of science/technology, philosophy/religion, and writing and rhetoric. The duties of the department head include taking a lead role in developing new programs, hiring and nurturing new faculty, managing personnel matters and departmental budgets, representing the department’s interest to the administration, and overseeing as well as participating in departmental teaching, research, and program development.

WPI, the nation’s third-oldest private technological university, currently enrolls 3,150 undergraduates and 1,300 part-time and full-time graduate students. Its innovative project-based undergraduate program, the WPI Plan, offers students a flexible and academically challenging alternative to conventional science and engineering curricula. All WPI undergraduates complete a sequence of five courses in the humanities and arts, followed by a culminating seminar or practicum. In addition, the Humanities and Arts Department offers a major and minor. Students and faculty have opportunities to participate in twenty off-campus project centers and more than a dozen international exchanges, including language programs in German and Spanish. Please visit the web site [www.wpi.edu/+HUA](http://www.wpi.edu/+HUA) for more information about WPI and the department.

Situated in Worcester, the WPI campus is close to many of the city’s major cultural attractions, including the American Antiquarian Society, the Worcester Art Museum, local theaters and poetry venues, and several major music performance halls. Forty miles west of Boston, Worcester offers access to the diverse cultural resources of New England, and provides opportunities for urban, suburban, or rural living.

Applications received before **January 15th, 2009** will receive a full reading. Review of applications will continue **until the position is filled**.

Candidates should submit a letter of application and current resume through WPI’s Human Resources website (linked to the Humanities and Arts website at [www.wpi.edu/+HUA](http://www.wpi.edu/+HUA)) and make arrangements for us to receive three letters of reference. These letters of reference should be sent to **Arthur C. Heinricher, Humanities and Arts Head Search Committee, Office of Human Resources 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280**. Questions may also be directed to the search committee through **Nancy Hickman, HUAsearch@wpi.edu**.

To enrich education through diversity, WPI is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and especially encourages minorities and women to apply