



SOCIETY *for the* **HISTORY** *of* **TECHNOLOGY**

eNewsletter of the Society for the History of Technology

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Editor: John Krige, Georgia Tech (john.krige@hsoc.gatech.edu)

Message from the President

Dear SHOT Members,

This is the first of what I hope will become a regular feature in SHOT. As matters stand, we formally only communicate with one another at the Annual Meeting, and of course many people are not able to attend the meeting every year. The Executive Council is convinced of the need to maintain a lively SHOT community *between* those meetings. To this end we are looking for new ways to sustain your interest in the Society throughout the year. We have completely redesigned the SHOT website. We are constructing a social media presence. And, we will produce and circulate an eNewsletter on a regular basis. Welcome to Issue #1.

What can you expect to find in these eNewsletters? They will not simply bring you up to date with reports on recent intellectual events in the field. They are also meant to make you aware of the benefits of SHOT membership. Did you know that SHOT will sponsor panels at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in January next year? That we are organizing a special panel for graduate students at the annual meetings of SHOT and the History of

Science Society, co-chaired by the Presidents of each? That we have a new Small Grants program to provide seed money for people to organize workshops anywhere in the world, encouraging both a diverse population of applicants, and a broad range of topics and regional settings? That we are making a concerted effort to improve our network of international scholars, over and above meeting out of the United States every three years? That we have established a new Early Career Interest Group with a voting representative on the Executive Council? In short we are making multiple new resources available to our membership in the hope that SHOT will be both your intellectual home (or at least one of them) and a platform that you regularly use to extend your network and to support your scholarly agendas.

I want to thank Colin Garvey, Eric Rau and Scott Knowles for help with this first newsletter. Its success will depend on your feedback. Please do not hesitate to send me items for inclusion and suggestions for improvement. Sincerely yours, John Krige, SHOT President, 2017-8

Elections to SHOT Committees

This year voting was possible during the SHOT Annual Meeting in Philadelphia and by (e-) mail, mail and online until November 20, 2017. In total we received 178 ballots. The results of the SHOT-Elections 2017 are:

Executive Council (3 members)

The Executive Council is SHOT's governing board and works with the Society's officers to plan and set policy. Members of the Executive Council serve for three years.

Marie Hicks, Nina Lerman and Patrick McCray are the new members of the Executive Council.

Editorial Committee (1 member)

The Editorial Committee works with the editor of *Technology and Culture* in addressing questions relating to the operation of the journal. Members of the Editorial Committee serve for five years.

Martin Collins is the new member of the Editorial Committee.

Nominating Committee (1 member)

The Nominating Committee is responsible for selecting individuals to run for office and preparing the slate of candidates for each year's election. Members of the Nominating Committee serve for three years

Nina Wormbs is the new member of the Nominating Committee.

I congratulate the new Council and Committee members and I thank the candidates that were not elected for their willingness to take part in the SHOT-elections 2017. I also want to thank all members that voted!

Jan Korsten
SHOT Secretary

Presidential Nominations to SHOT Committees

The SHOT President is tasked with nominating appropriate members to serve on one of the many committees that manage the Society's business. To date, the following people have graciously agreed to serve for three years (normally): my sincere thanks to them all for their service.

There are many more vacancies to fill: please contact john.krige@hsoc.gatech.edu if you can help serve on one of the committees identified under 'Awards, Prizes and Grants' on the SHOT homepage.

Dibner Prize Committee Janhavi Phalkey and Arthur Daemmrich have agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to Barbara Ganson, Kathy Franz, Mike Geselowitz, and Johannes-Geert Hagmann who are rotating off.

Eugene S. Ferguson Prize Committee

Maria Portuondo has agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to Steve Walton who is rotating off.

Brook Hindle Postdoctoral Fellowship

Eric Schatzberg has agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to David Hemminger who is rotating off.

Sally Hacker Prize Committee

Tim Stoneman and Amy Slaton (for two years) have agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to Ed McCaul who is rotating off.

Finance Committee

Amy Bix has agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to Paul Israel who is rotating off.

Kranzberg Dissertation Fellowship

Joy Rohde has agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to Massimo Moraglio and Micah Reuber who are rotating off.

Program Committee

Cyrus Mody has agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to William Storey who is rotating off.

Robinson Prize

Angelina Callahan, Jason Callahan, Emily Gibson and Jayita Sarkar have agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to Seung-Joon Lee, Joris Mercelis, Lisa Onaga and Ksenia Tatarchenko who are rotating off.

Sites Committee

Jonathan Coopersmith has agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to Jeff Schramm who is rotating off.

Travel Grants Committee

Paul Josephson has agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to Petri Paju who is rotating off.

Usher Prize

Jake Hamblin has agreed to serve on this Committee. Thanks to David Biggs who is rotating off.

What you can find on the website (www.historyoftechnology.edu)

1. SHOT Statement on recent developments in US immigration policy.
<https://www.historyoftechnology.org/statement-by-the-officers-and-executive-council-of-the-society-for-the-history-of-technology-shot-regarding-immigration-policy-changes-in-the-us/>
2. Awards, prizes and grants: <https://www.historyoftechnology.org/about-us/awards-prizes-and-grants/>
3. Contributions to a special panel at the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in honor of Ann Johnson: <https://www.historyoftechnology.org/shot-panel-thinking-with-ann-johnson/>
4. Reduced membership rates for graduate students and for taking out a two-year membership/subscription to *Technology and Culture*:
<https://www.historyoftechnology.org/membership/joinrenew-shot/>
5. Tweets from the SHOT Annual Meeting:
<https://www.historyoftechnology.org/tweeting-from-shot-annual-meeting-philadelphia-2017-shot2017/>

Message from the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee in Philadelphia

A dozen scholars from seven institutions served as the local organizing committee for the 2017 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. The Consortium for

History of Science, Technology and Medicine began discussing hosting a meeting with the Sites Committee way back in 2012. We were delighted to have been selected as host for the 2017 meeting. Scholars from the area joined the LOC Committee to help, not all of them affiliated with the Consortium or its member institutions. The Committee members were Babak Ashrafi, Ronald Brashear, Mike Geselowitz, Ann Greene, Paul Israel, Lawrence Kessler, Scott Knowles, Erik Rau, Ruth Schwartz Cowan, Amy E. Slaton, Kathy Steen and Heidi Voskuhl. Committee members developed a theme for the meeting, invited plenary speakers and organized one of the presidential roundtables, arranged for tours of area attractions, helped with arrangements for the opening reception and awards banquet, recruited volunteers, raised funds, and provided local support for SHOT conference staff.

The plenary forum, featuring Donna Riley of Purdue and Nathan Ensmenger of Indiana, was held at the Chemical Heritage Foundation which was a few blocks from the hotel. The same venue hosted the opening reception and the awards banquet. For the plenary and roundtable, the Committee chose the theme “Technology, Democracy, and Participation,” an apt topic for a conference in the city often called the birthplace of American democracy. Amy Slaton, Yanna Lambrinidou, Barbara Hahn, and Jose Torero participated in the roundtable. These scholars, working within and beyond the history of technology, provided diverse perspectives and important insights into the historical and modern interactions between technology and political participation.

In addition to these academic events, the Committee arranged for opportunities to explore sites of Philadelphia’s history of technology. Tour destinations included the Hagley Museum and Library, a 235-acre example of early American industry featuring the gunpowder works founded by E.I. du Pont in 1802 as well as the world’s premier research collection of American business, technology and industrial design; the Fairmount Waterworks, Philadelphia’s primary pumping station for most of the nineteenth century; and the Philadelphia Navy Yard, a center for naval technologies during the twentieth century. Other tour destinations included the Ninth Street Italian Market, the Delaware River waterfront, and the archival collections of the American Philosophical Society. The Committee also arranged for discounted admission to many of Philadelphia’s museums and historical attractions.

All this was, of course, in support of the conference panels and sessions, and the chance for making new scholarly connections and renewing old ones during the meeting. We were delighted by the large registration and grateful for the opportunity to host the SHOT annual meeting in Philadelphia. We hope that SHOT members enjoyed a pleasant and productive conference, and we look forward to hosting SHOT again!

Babak Ashrafi

Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine

Update from the Chair of the Small Grants Committee

SHOT established the Small Grants Committee in April, 2017 to support events relevant to SHOT's mission. After our first round of applications, we were pleased to support five workshops and conferences. They include Scott Knowles's "Anthropocene Campus Philadelphia," Natalia Nikiforova's conference "Contours of The Future: Technology and Innovation in Cultural Context" conference (in Russia), Nurcin Ileri's workshop "Experiences of Technology in Ottoman and Post-Ottoman Territories at the Turn of the 20th Century" (in Turkey), Joseph Klett's workshop series "Seeing like a Valley" (in California), and Ruth Oldenziel and Frank Schipper's workshop "Sustainable Urban Mobility" (in the Netherlands). The first two events took place in October and November 2017, and the latter three events are scheduled in 2018 and 2019.

The members of the Small Grants Committee are delighted that this initiative will publicize SHOT as well as expand our membership to new geographical areas and neighboring disciplines. The Grants, that typically provide seed money of about \$3000, are expected to promote the mission of SHOT beyond our annual meetings and to broaden the membership network through connections with new scholars. Furthermore, to facilitate conversations between the grantees and SHOT members, the workshop organizers will share the results of their SHOT-endorsed events in the upcoming *Technology's Stories* or in panels at future annual meetings.

To reflect the decisions made during the Executive Council meeting in October, the Committee has been renamed as the Internationalization Small Grants Committee. It will aim at promoting SHOT's mission to globalize its intellectual terrain as well as broaden its international membership.

The Committee welcomes endorsement requests for events that advance the historical study of technology in an international fashion. March 15 and September 15, 2018 are the deadlines for submitting proposals for funded endorsements. More details will be publicized on the Society's website shortly.

Questions can be directed to Committee Members: Mara Mills

([mmills\[at\]nyu.edu](mailto:mmills@nyu.edu)), Jenny L. Smith ([jenny.smith\[at\]ust.hk](mailto:jenny.smith@ust.hk)), and Honghong Tinn ([tinnho\[at\]earlham.edu](mailto:tinnho@earlham.edu)).

Honghong Tinn (chair)

Research Opportunities for the Historians of Technology at the Linda Hall Library

The Linda Hall Library is pleased to announce its fellowship program for the 2018/19 academic year. Fellowships, lasting anywhere from one week to a full academic year, are awarded to support outstanding projects in the history of science, engineering, and related STS fields that make use of the Library's collections. Graduate students are also encouraged to apply for the Library's 80/20 fellowship, which allows them to collaborate with staff on a public history project based on their research.

The Linda Hall Library, located next to the University of Missouri–Kansas City (UMKC) in Kansas City, MO, is among the world's leading independent research libraries, boasting extensive primary and secondary sources related to engineering, physics, chemistry, earth science, astronomy, environmental science, and the life sciences. The Library's collections include more than 10,000 rare books dating from the 15th century to the present, as well as 500,000 monograph volumes and more than 48,000 journal titles from around the world, with especially strong holdings in Soviet and East Asian science and technology.

SHOT members may be particularly interested in materials that were transferred to Kansas City following the closure of the Engineering Societies Library in 1995. In addition to a nearly comprehensive set of publications from the five “founder societies” of the United Engineering Foundation (ASCE, ASME, AIChE, AIME, and IEEE), the Linda Hall Library acquired a large number of unpublished conference papers, technical reports, government publications, and over 200,000 industrial standards—many of which are unavailable elsewhere in the United States. The Library also has a substantial collection of patent literature and is an officially sanctioned U.S. Patent and Trademark Resource Center.

Fellows at the Linda Hall Library participate in a vibrant intellectual community alongside in-house scholars and colleagues from nearby research institutions. In addition to UMKC, the Library’s location offers researchers easy access to the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum, the Kansas City branch of the National Archives and Records Administration, and the Clendening History of Medicine Library.

For further information about the Linda Hall Library or its fellowship program, visit <http://www.lindahall.org/fellowships> or e-mail fellowships@lindahall.org. The application deadline for 2018/19 fellowships is **January 19, 2018**.

Benjamin Gross
Associate Vice President for Collections
Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering and Technology

Research Opportunities at the Hagley Library

Administered by the [Center for the History of Business, Technology and Society](#), Hagley invites serious researchers to apply for one of our grants to defray the costs of an extended stay intended to use our collections (<https://www.hagley.org/research/grants-fellowships>)

All grants require applicants to explain how their project will contribute new information to previous scholarship and how Hagley's research materials are pertinent to their project.

Exploratory grants are limited to one week and Henry Belin du Pont research grants may be up to 8 weeks. Researchers who first apply for an exploratory grant may ask for a longer research grant if our collections warrant more attention. Anyone can apply for one of these research grants, but only advanced graduate students are eligible for our Henry Belin du Pont dissertation grant and Miller Center/Hagley Library fellowship.

While at Hagley, grant recipients have many options to participate in our scholarly community as well as pursue their research agenda. These opportunities include participating in [Stories from the Stacks](#), the Hagley Center's researcher interview program; delivering informal afternoon talks in the library on their research; and writing a blog entry in [Hagley's Collections and Research News](#). Recipients also may stay in our onsite scholar's housing, where they will likely meet other researchers.

Grant applicants should contact library staff in advance of submitting their application to help them determine if our collections support their projects.

[Stories from the Stacks](#) interviews and blog entries by visiting scholars also offer insights into how our collections may be used and are worth reviewing as well.

Application Information for Grants:

Applications for Exploratory and Henry Belin du Pont Research Grants are considered tri-annually. They are due March 31, June 30, and October 31, with a decision within 45 days of the deadline.

Proposals are accepted annually by November 15 for Hagley's Henry Belin du Pont Dissertation Fellowships intended for graduate students who have completed all course work for the doctoral degree. All grants require use of Hagley's collections for advanced research – [click here to search our collections](#).

If you have questions, please contact the Center at (302) 658-2400 ext 244 or at askhagley@hagley.org.

ICOHTEC Call for Proposals and Prize Announcements

Technological Drive from Past to Future?

50 years of ICOHTEC

*The International Committee for the History of Technology's
45th Symposium, 17 to 21 July 2018, Saint-Étienne, France*

The International Committee for the History of Technology will hold its 45th symposium and 50th anniversary celebration at the Jean Monnet University in the city of Saint-Étienne, France. The general theme of the symposium is “Technological Drive from Past to Future? 50 years of ICOHTEC.” Our intention is to inquire into long-term trends in interactions between technology and society, as well as how technologies have influenced utopian and dystopian views of the future. We aim to examine how the role of technology has changed across history and what characters and trends of technological change historians can help to anticipate in the future.

As usual, the ICOHTEC Programme Committee welcomes papers on a wide range of topics, especially the changing relations between technology and society in the past and future.

Submission of proposals

All proposals (paper, sessions, and posters) must be submitted electronically through our website <http://www.icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2018.html>. The deadline is **5 February 2018**.

Please find the full call for papers on ICOHTEC's homepage:

<http://icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2018-cfp.html>

Should you have any queries on the submission procedure or programme, please contact Timo Myllyntaus, the Chair of the Programme Committee, timmyl@utu.fi

ICOHTEC Prizes for Outstanding Books and Articles in the History of Technology

The International Committee for the History of Technology, ICOHTEC, announces the **Turriano ICOHTEC Prize** for books (deadline **2 February 2018**) and the **Maurice Daumas Prize** for articles (deadline **15 January 2018**). The prize-winning book and the prize-winning article will be presented and discussed at a special session of the next ICOHTEC symposium, in Saint-

Étienne, France, 17–21 July 2018 (<http://www.icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2018.html>). For information concerning the prizes please visit <http://icohtec.org/resources-prizes.html>

Message from the Graduate Student Representative

Greetings from ECIG, the Early Career Interest Group, SHOT's newest SIG! As the Chair of ECIG and on behalf of all the ECIG members, I would like to thank the EC, the local planning committee, SHOT President John Krige, and Secretary Jan Korsten for planning and executing a wonderful meeting last month in Philadelphia. In addition, I would like to thank co-organizer Jennifer Alexander and all of the participants in the SHOT 2017 Graduate Student Workshop.

We formed ECIG last year with the goal of supporting graduate students and early career scholars working in the history of technology. In line with our peer groups in other historical societies, we define “early career scholar” as scholars who have received their PhDs within the past 5 years. In addition to providing opportunities for networking, collaboration, and mentorship, we started ECIG with the intention of increasing the representation and consideration of graduate students within the governance of SHOT itself. To that end, I have been an active participating member on the SHOT EC at its last two meetings, serving in a new role as Graduate Representative to the EC.

ECIG held its first business meeting last month at SHOT 2017. We discussed the structure of the organization itself, the creation of new committees, and began planning new activities for graduate students and early career scholars at SHOT 2018 in St. Louis. Some of the ideas presented included a mentorship program that would pair senior scholars with junior scholars for a chat over coffee; a CV/Job Market workshop designed to help ECIG members going or already on the market; and an ECIG-sponsored roundtable in the main conference track designed to address issues relevant to those interested in pursuing “Alt Ac” careers (i.e. scholarly positions outside the academy). Additionally, 2018 marks the first year that ECIG will be organizing the SHOT Graduate Student Workshop, which offers graduate students attending SHOT for the first time a chance to receive extensive feedback on their papers and

presentation before submitting to the main track. This year we had more than 10 participants across two excellent sessions, and we hope to continue to improve the workshop in future iterations by making sure it provides a safe space for grads to become acclimatized to the culture of SHOT.

ECIG will be working on these and other ideas over the next year as we prepare for St. Louis, and we invite your assistance and contributions. Please contact me <garvec@rpi.edu> if you would like to get involved. In the meantime, feel free to join our mailing list to keep updated on ECIG's activities. We welcome graduate students as well as early career scholars from across the international community. To join us please write to me at garvec@rpi.edu.

Colin Garvey, PhD Candidate in STS at RPI, <garvec@rpi.edu>
Co-Chair of ECIG

Anthropocene Campus (ACP), Drexel U., Philadelphia, PA, October 22–26

The "Anthropocene" is the geologic age in which human industrial activity provides the dominant force shaping the Earth and its environment. As an inquiry, the Anthropocene serves as a fruitful meeting ground for interdisciplinary exploration. Researchers interested in technology, science, and the environment have particularly relevant skills in this regard, taking as they do a highly contextualized and critical view of technological determinism, and with their tools for tracing out material and social trends over long stretches of time. This meeting— building on the success of the Anthropocene Campus meetings in Berlin (2014–2019) — explored the Anthropocene in the setting of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley. Over 75 participants took part in seminars, field sites, and other related events covering film, museums, and artistic production related to the Anthropocene. The meeting was timed to precede the annual SHOT meeting. SHOT generously donated funds to encourage the participation of a diverse group of graduate students in the ACP. Participants selected as "SHOT Fellows" received funds to offset travel and participation costs. SHOT Fellows participated in a special roundtable

discussion at the SHOT meeting. Discussion is already underway for an Anthropocene Campus to coincide with the 2018 SHOT meeting in St. Louis. Please contact Scott Knowles (sgk23@drexel.edu) for more details.

SHOT Co-sponsored International Meetings: a Selection

Contours of the future: technology and innovation in cultural context

(www.futurecon.ru), St Petersburg, Russia: 1–5 November 2017. Co-sponsored by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research and SHOT, with Natalia Nikiforova (SHOT International Scholar 2013–14) on the organizing committee, this international conference hosted by Peter the Great Saint-Petersburg Polytechnic University brought together more than 150 specialists and young scientists from across Russia, and also from Armenia, Belarus, UK, Kazakhstan, Slovakia, Poland, Germany, Egypt, Canada, the Netherlands, Portugal, USA, Finland, France, Switzerland, Estonia and South Africa.

From the perspective of post-industrial societies in which the future has turned into a space of risk and construction of expectations, contributors asked how, by whom and under what conditions the future is constructed and managed as a temporal abstraction and political instrument. Papers focused on the future as a field of struggle and contested interests of various actors; on philosophical and ethical aspects of production of knowledge about the future of science and technology; on “grammars of the future” and the role of narratives and metaphors; on power relations and their influence on the scenarios of the future; on aesthetic dimension of future technologies; on history and archives of the future. A fuller conference report for the SHOT website is in preparation.

Experiences of technology in Ottoman and post-Ottoman territories at the turn

of the 20th century, Istanbul, Turkey: 25–27 May 2018 (dates TBC). Organized by Nurçin İleri (SHOT International Scholar 2017–18) and her colleagues, and co-sponsored by SHOT, the Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (RCAC) and the French Institute of Anatolian Studies (IFEA), this workshop will bring together an intellectual community of junior Middle Eastern

scholars engaged with technology and history to enrich future work. The workshop spans the time period between 1870 and 1940 when the economic, social, and cultural dynamics of nation–state modernization played a crucial role in the Ottoman and post–Ottoman cities such as Istanbul, Izmir, Thessaloniki, Beirut, Cairo, mainly port–cities. It thematically engages in infrastructure, material culture, and gender.

Craft and innovation in modern societies, Hangzhou, PRC: 1–3 June 2018. Co–sponsored and organized by SHOT, the Institute for the History of Natural Sciences (IHNS), Beijing, and the China National Silk Museum (CNSM), Hangzhou, this international workshop, hosted by CNSM, follows on the highly successful 2016 SHOT international workshop on *Craft and innovation*, held in Chennai (<http://fasos-research.nl/indian-loom/craft-and-innovation-proceedings/>). The Hangzhou workshop brings together historians and practitioners from China, India and elsewhere (of whom at least half are already active in SHOT) to explore the place of craft–skills in the building of a modern industrial economy in the two nations of India and China. The workshop is followed immediately by the 2018 conference of the *History of Technology in China*, to which both Chinese and non–Chinese SHOT members will contribute.

Francesca Bray

Report on ‘Technology in Modern East Asia’ Workshop

The Needham Research Institute in Cambridge, England hosted the third annual "Technology in Modern East Asian History Workshop" on June 8–9, 2017.

At the point where historians of technology are increasingly interested in Asia a sustained conversation between scholars of different generations and disciplinary backgrounds is crucial in turning an interest and curiosity into an intellectual engagement and cross–pollination. The workshop is envisioned as a contribution to this dialogue while also designed as a mentoring and development event for early career scholars of East Asia.

T&C Editor Suzanne Moon and EC member Mats Fridlund represented SHOT at the workshop this year as mentors to six early-career scholars from Europe, US, China and Korea.

The workshop was launched by the discussion of a paper by Stacey Van Vleet on Tibetan medical and religious practices involved in the production of precious pills which circulated widely in Qing China. This paper illustrated well the benefits of not falling into the "high-tech trap", focusing instead on the technologies that mattered and were used at a given time and place instead of projecting contemporary definitions into the East Asian past. Additionally, the paper was considered a contribution to the understanding of the technology-religion nexus; it efficiently chips away at the assumption that most technology is pragmatic while religiosity is just a coating — it shows what is missed by such framing.

The paper of Kyoungjin Bae on the production of export furniture in eighteenth-century Canton told a story of Chinese artisans who followed European designs and thus had to become versed in the making of foreign forms and structures. This paper raises a series of compelling questions about the transmission of techno-aesthetic knowledge related to cabinetmaking as well as to the nature of craft knowledge and imitation. The paper spoke to a growing body of scholarship that argues that copying is a creative and generative process deeply imbedded in the dynamics of the global eighteenth-century.

Hansun Hsiung's paper described a Dutch educational periodical enterprise, the second-hand auction markets of colonial Java, and late Tokugawa period translation bureau. By the time the magazines reached Japan, they went through a number of hands, were unbound and rebound, pages torn out and others added in, resulting in a reassembled object. Their disrepair called for care and maintenance thus opening the way for new kinds of uses affecting, in turn, knowledge making in Japan on the eve of the Meiji Restoration.

Peter Lavelle invited us to explore how Qing provincial officials tried to use foreign machinery (mining, dredging, digging) to jumpstart the Gansu province's output of textiles, agricultural products, and minerals after years of warfare. The deeply researched paper was an example against the billing of industrial technology as something that could be deployed and scaled up with

the understanding that returns will not take long to manifest. In a clear prose, the paper showed that much local resources, creativity and time was spent in making it all work while the promise of economic recovery was slow to materialize.

Changxue Shu looked into the introduction of production technologies for the manufacturing of European hollow bricks in Republican China. Focusing on the pioneering factory, the Manufacture Ceramique de Shanghai 1921–1935, the paper demonstrated how new architectural trends as well as material constraints shaped the emergence of the ceramic industry in China. It highlighted the question of local materiality and feasibility in shaping what has often been billed as a relatively straightforward story of technology transfer.

Sangwoon Yoo brought us to contemporary Korea and explored a pivotal period in the 1980s and 1990s when Korea is said to have gone from imitation to innovation. Using innovation as an actors term and a government agenda, this bold study goes against a body of scholarship concerned with assigning credit and instead integrates dispersed voices for a more nuanced picture of socio-political assumptions behind the local uses of innovation, including its critics.

The workshop was sponsored by SHOT with generous financial support from the Max Plank Institute for the History of Science, the Needham Research Institute and the French National Center for Scientific Research. After a couple of days of intensive activity, the workshop concluded with the customary punting tour on the Cam, along the "Backs" on Saturday morning.

Since 2015, when SHOT was first represented at the workshop, the model has matured and solidified into a point of passage for scholars in the field. The format has been remarkably efficient in ensuring individuals get feedback and network in a series of formal and informal settings. The Needham Research Institute supplies an idyllic setting and support, helping the workshop become a solid but not exhausting event with a healthy mix of social and professional gatherings.

Aleksandra Kobiljski

Launching the SHOT Social Media Hub

Concept of the “Social Media Hub”

Given its signal role in the history of technology scholarly community, SHOT requires a social media presence that will expand the reach of the society’s presence. A “Social Media Hub” will daily create and disseminate relevant commentary, event announcements, and information promoting *Technology and Culture* and *Technology’s Stories* content through Facebook and Twitter.

The scholarly community of historians of technology is the core audience for SHOT content. However, SHOT has historically also reached out to historians in other fields, scholars across the humanities and social sciences, museum professionals and archivists, scientists and engineers, designers and architects, and policy experts. Among the general public, fascination with the history of technology is perennial. Taking these points into account, the SHOT Social Media Hub will undertake efforts to expand SHOT’s reach across the disciplines and professions, and into the public arena, through the use of blogs and podcasts. Within a year from launch, the SHOT Social Media Hub will aim to be organizing multiple ongoing “digital columns” (blogs) written by SHOT members, producing a history of technology podcast, and generating content in the form of interviews and image collections drawn from the SHOT annual meeting and related scholarly meetings. These efforts will advance SHOT’s strategic goals of member recruitment, retention, and internationalization, amplify the importance and accessibility of formal meetings, and foster an ongoing, broad-based digital dialogue in the many rich topics of the history of technology. For more information, or to get involved, please contact Scott Knowles (sgk23@drexel.edu).

Scott Knowles