

Mending history of technology:
ideas for the future direction of the discipline

The history of technology scholarship has grown considerably since the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) was founded in 1958. The discipline has produced many insights about how technologies were shaped by and shaped societies. Historians of technology have examined how artifacts are designed, developed, transferred, adopted, used, or rejected by knowledge workers, technically skilled people, invisible technicians, marketers, and all kinds of users. History of technology scholarship has shown how the development of technologies and technological systems are historically contingent and culturally situated, as well as how they can be gendered, racialized, hierarchical, ideologically influenced, and politically motivated. Historical studies of technology and movement helped create mobility studies and of sound reproduction technologies sound studies. Maintenance and repair studies have been gaining attention among historians of technology as well. Despite these important findings and development, the history of technology literature is still dominated by Euro-American case studies, practices, languages, and institutions. There's been great progress made to include other geographies, methodologies, and storytelling practices. New books on histories of technology of other regions have been published. *Technology and Culture* in the last ten years has printed special issues on "New histories of technology in South Asia" and "Africanizing the History of Technology." Articles exploring histories of technology in Central and East Asia and of Islamic consumer have also filled the pages of the journal. Institutionally, SHOT has been fostering a more global community through its International Scholars program, supporting scholars and scholarship underrepresented in the history of technology through EDITH, and addressing systemic and epistemic racism through its REDI committee.

This open panel seeks ideas and proposals to take history of technology into the future. What methodological, epistemic, and institutional strategies that we can propose to make the discipline more inclusive and global and do restorative justice to past harms?

To Apply:

Please email the panel organizers Anto Mohsin (anto.mohsin@northwestern.edu) and Sulfikar Amir (sulfikar@ntu.edu.sg) a Word doc containing the following info by noon GMT on December 16, 2023.

- Title of paper
- Name, title, affiliation, and email address
- 150-250 word abstract
- 2-page CV