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A Note to the SHOT Community

Dear Colleagues,

For historians, the events of recent weeks may seem wholly predictable; for citizens—of all nations, and all political persuasions—they are shocking. I want to begin by expressing deep concern for SHOT members whose lives and livelihoods have been or may soon be profoundly affected by the changes.

The challenges to scholarship are not strictly personal ones, however. SHOT's leadership, in dialogue with the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and fellow scholarly societies, is keeping a close eye on these developments and their implications for history-centered organizations. We will take these new realities into consideration when shaping our strategic planning for meeting arrangements, travel grants, and other programs over upcoming months and years.

You too have a role to play in the preservation of our profession and history. SHOT is the combined contributions of *all* of its members. Remain engaged in the vital work of teaching, research, publishing, consulting, creating exhibitions and participating in conferences and all manner of public programs. Find ways to attend SHOT meetings and to be active on committees and SIGS. Contribute to *Technology and Culture*. And please stay involved in public life. Do not remain silent. We need many voices and, as always, we need the inspiration and unique insights that only history can provide.

Sincerely,

Debbie Douglas, President

SHOT 2024 Election Results

We welcome the candidates that were elected in the 2024 SHOT Elections!

Vice President – President Elect

- Jennifer Karns Alexander

New members of the Executive Council (2025-2027)

- Benjamin Gross
- Elana Kochetkova
- Yeonsil Kang

Nominations Committee (2025-2027)

- Kate McDonald

Editorial Committee (2025-2029)

- Greg Downey

We thank the candidates that were not elected for their willingness to take part in the SHOT elections 2024. We also thank all committee members - elected and appointed - that rotated off at the end of last year. Finally we welcome all newly appointed committee members. We are grateful for your willingness to stand up and volunteer!

Technology Policy and the History of Technology: “Think Deeply and Build Things”

In early September 2023, some 40 technology policy professionals and historians of technology met to discuss areas of common interest, with sessions focused on energy transitions and the environment; AI, autonomy, and equity; and manufacturing, maintenance, and innovation. Organized by Arizona State University’s Consortium for Science, Policy, and Outcomes (CSPO) with support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the workshop built on previous SHOT conference roundtables and sought to clarify pathways for historians to engage with technology policy.

Several opportunities emerged from discussions. First, technology policy is undergoing rapid change at present, including hiring at federal agencies under the CHIPS and Science Act and other recent legislation. This new generation of policy professionals is being asked to develop community engagement initiatives, analyze the impacts of technology change on minority groups, and respond to environmental justice concerns. Research in the history of technology is highly relevant to these initiatives, notably work on barriers encountered by minority scientists and engineers and histories of success and failure in co-developing technology with relevant communities.

Second, federal S&T policy agencies are seeking to spark innovation clusters in regions across the country that have not received federal science and engineering funding in recent decades. Work by historians of technology on social dimensions of regional innovation, the need to fund and celebrate maintenance, and the significance of tacit knowledge to manufacturing and technology transfer offer much needed insights.

Finally, policy professionals emphasized the need for timely and concise advice, even as they welcomed the nuances raised by historians. The workshop organizers are planning further engagements and are seeking collaborators to develop teaching cases that would illustrate benefits of historical perspective and methods for policymaking and implementation.

Arthur Daemmrich
Jonathan Coopersmith

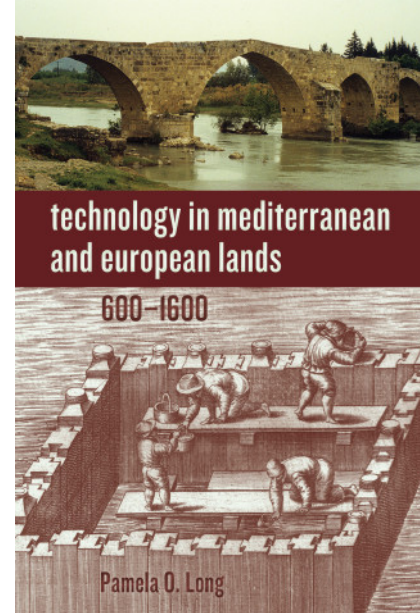
New Volume Technology in Motion Series

Technology in Mediterranean and European Lands, 600–1600 is the latest volume in the *Technology in Motion* series. The book is written by Pamela O. Long. She explores the intricate web of technological advancements that shaped Mediterranean and European societies during the medieval and early modern

periods.

Technology in Motion is a book series published by Johns Hopkins University Press in cooperation with the Society for the History of Technology. All volumes in the current series have been edited by Pamela O. Long and Asif Siddiqi. Books in the series synthesize and highlight recent scholarship on urgent topics in the history of technology, focusing on discrete thematic or geographic areas, and covering all periods of history from antiquity to the present around the globe.

[You can find all information on the series here.](#)



SHOT Awards and Fellowships - 2025 Deadlines



Leonardo da Vinci Medal

The Leonardo da Vinci Medal is the society's highest honor, presented to an individual who has greatly contributed to the history of technology through research, teaching, publications, service to the Society, and other activities.

SHOT invites members to nominate candidates for the Leonardo da Vinci Medal. To put forward a person's name for consideration for the award, please upload a letter of nomination, describing the person's outstanding contributions to the history of technology, to SHOT's online submission system. **You can nominate candidates for the 2025 Leonardo Da Vinci Medal until 15 May 2025.** Please note that nominated candidates will be considered for the Leonardo Da Vinci Medal in the next three years (so candidates nominated in 2025 will be considered for the award in 2025, 2026 and 2027).

[Find all information here.](#)

Melvin Kranzberg Dissertation Fellowship

Awarded annually to a doctoral student preparing a dissertation in the history of technology, broadly defined. It concerns a \$4,000 award. This fellowship is in memory of the co-founder of SHOT, and honors Melvin Kranzberg's many contributions to developing the history of technology as a field of scholarly endeavor and SHOT as a professional organization.

Applications can be submitted until 15 May 2025.

[Find all Kranzberg Fellowship information here.](#)

Brooke Hindle Postdoctoral Fellowship

An award of \$10,000 in support of a scholar at the beginning of their career. The fellowship honors the contribution of Brooke Hindle to the work of the SHOT.

Applications can be submitted until 15 May 2025.

[Find all information on the Brooke Hindle Fellowship here.](#)

Fellowships in Aerospace History (coordinated by AHA)

The Fellowships in Aerospace History are usually offered annually by NASA to support research projects in aerospace history. Representatives from the AHA, HSS, and SHOT comprise the review committee. The application process is handled by our colleagues of the American Historical Association.

There are three fellowships:

- AHA Fellowship in Aerospace History
- AHA Fellowship in the History of Space Technology
- HSS Fellowship in Aerospace History

Please note: The fellowships will not be offered in 2025!

[Find all information on the Fellowships in Aerospace History](#)

Sidney Edelstein Prize

Recognizing outstanding scholarly work in the history of technology. The prize consists of an award of \$3,500 and a plaque.

It is now possible to nominate books for the 2025 Edelstein Prize. **Nominated books should be received by the prize committee no later than 15 May 2025.**

[Find all information on the Edelstein Prize here.](#)

Sally Hacker Prize

Established in 1999 to honor exceptional scholarship that reaches beyond the academy toward a broad audience. The prize consists of an award of \$2,000 and a plaque.

Nominated books should be received by the prize committee no later than 15 May 2025.

[Go to the Sally Hacker Prize page.](#)

Samuel Eleazar and Rose Tartakow Levinson Prize

For an original essay in the history of technology that examines technology within the framework of social or intellectual history. The prize consists of an award of \$300 and a certificate.

Deadline for nominations is 15 May 2025.

[Find all information on the Levinson Prize here.](#)

Bernard S. Finn IEEE History Prize

For the best article in the history of electro technology-power, electronics, telecommunications, and computer science. The prize consists of an award of \$1,000 and a certificate. In addition, IEEE will provide a travel subsidy (max. \$750 domestic, \$1,000 international) to allow the winner to attend SHOT's annual meeting.

Deadline for nominations is 15 May 2025.

[Go to the Bernard S. Finn IEEE History Prize](#)

Martha Trescott Prize

Given annually for the best published essay in one of two areas: In even-numbered years (2024,

2026), the prize will be awarded to an outstanding published historical essay in the area of women in technology. **In odd-numbered years (2025, 2027), the prize will be awarded to an outstanding published essay in the area of social responsibility of engineers in history.**

Deadline for nominations is 15 May 2025.

[Go to the Martha Trescott Prize page.](#)

Race and Histories of Technologies Prize

A prize for outstanding scholarship that explicitly explores the multiple intersections and junctures between race/ethnicity and the history of technology. The prize is part of a collective commitment for addressing systemic and epistemic racism at SHOT and in the global intellectual field it represents. The prize is intended for junior scholars and new entrants to the profession worldwide.

Deadline for nominations is 15 May 2025.

[Find all information on the Race and Histories of Technologies Prize here.](#)

SHOT Luxembourg 2025 - Reminder Call for Proposals - Deadline 5 April

Technologies of Migration – Migrating Technologies

Migration has shaped the civilized world. The circulation of people, goods, and ideas is tightly connected to technologies, as is the monitoring, control or prevention of such movements. The deep history of human migration is characterized by several waves– caused by climatic changes, economic crises, or political forces. Due to globalization, cross-border flows have increased steadily since the 19th century, and technologies of transportation and communication have been essential in mass mobilization. The current discourses on migration illustrate the transformative role of digital technologies in planning, organizing, and realizing of difficult and often dangerous migratory movements around the world. Developments also highlight the inherent politics of migratory technologies in surveillance, border control, and the creation of machine-readable bodies.

Luxembourg for instance, whose foreign-born residents account for 51.2 % of the population and a share of 60.7% in employment in 2023, turned into a European hotspot of work migration with the birth of the local steel industry in the late 19th century. Foreign workers were attracted from neighbouring countries first (especially France, Belgium, and Germany), around 1900 from the Italian peninsula, and young interwar states in Central and Eastern Europe afterwards. The post-WWII migration was characterized by a strong migration from Portugal (mainly in the building sector) and by highly skilled work migration in the financial sector and European administration since the 1970s. While official sources brand the Luxembourg migration history as a “success story”, the pivotal role of migrants in turning the country into one of the richest in the world is often unacknowledged. The 2025 SHOT conference draws inspiration from this history and offers an important opportunity to reflect critically on the hidden histories and archival silences of migration and technology from multiple perspectives.

Technologies not only facilitate transfer of people and goods, but are also epistemic objects that carry gender and race inscriptions, embody practices of knowledge, and symbolic meanings that change and can be reappropriated in unpredictable and creative ways in a complex process of translation. Migrating technologies enable knowledge transfer and shape the social construction and symbolic enrichment of material objects, infrastructures, and complex technological systems. How do processes such as the migration of data formats, the adaptation of infrastructures, or the translation of technical knowledge shape historical trajectories of technologies? Can technologies themselves be seen as “migrant”, as they shift from one technological or social ecosystem to another?

In this context we invite a critical appraisal of concepts, strategies, and narratives of migration when

analyzed through the lens of technology. How does technology frame the experiences of migration and how have “technologies of memory” produced individual or networked forms of family narratives? How can we address questions of human rights and inequalities in a paradoxical temporality characterized by the global competition for talents and the growing inequality of wealth and financial resources? How do normative and legal regimes impact on “official” and “clandestine” use of migration technologies? What data driven methods are available for historians of technology and migration to study and analyze complex flows of people, goods, and ideas at different scales and in a long-durée perspective?

Suggested topics

As always, SHOT anticipates a vibrant and interesting meeting that explores the theme of migration as well as other important topics. Below are a few suggested topics and themes intended to stimulate the interest of potential contributors:

- The ethics, aesthetics, and politics of migration and migrating technologies
- Migratory tactics and strategies and the role of technology in facilitating / preventing cross-border flows
- Invisible labor, infrastructures of support, and networks of diaspora
- Geographies of migration, from the local to the global
- The role of migration in environmental and climate (in)justice
- Indigenous knowledge and processes of knowledge transfer in migration
- Societal tensions and identity politics
- The role of conservation, preservation, and archives in understanding the past and present of migration, including oral history and public history initiatives
- Migration of technologies themselves across systems, times, and contexts, from the repurposing of infrastructures to digital preservation

While we especially hope to prompt conversations around such matters, we also welcome proposals on other topics in the history of technology. We warmly welcome proposals from the wide range of fields that study such questions, including STS, Anthropology, Economic and Business History, Historical Sociology, Communication & Media Studies, Gender & Cultural Studies, Indigenous & Area Studies, Philosophy, Political Science. We especially encourage early scholars as well as scholars in African, Asian, and Latin American Studies.

The deadline for all paper and panel submissions is **5 April 2025**. Please consult the conference website (www.historyoftechnology.org) for detailed submission guidelines.

The Program Committee welcomes proposals of several types

- Traditional sessions: sessions of 3 or 4 papers, with a chair listed in the session proposal. Deadline: 5 April 2025
- Unconventional sessions: sessions with formats that diverge in useful ways from traditional sessions. These can include (but are not limited to) round-table sessions, workshops, sessions with pre-circulated papers, poster sessions, or screenings. Other creative formats can facilitate communication, dialogue, and audience involvement. For instance a “you write, I present” format in which a discussant presents a paper for the author, with authors on-site to respond. Or a session in which authors comment on each other’s papers. We are also interested in sessions that include multiple short “lightning” talks (eg: 5 minutes) on a particular theme. Deadline: 5 April 2025
- Open sessions: Individuals interested in finding others to join panel sessions may propose open sessions. Open session descriptions, along with the organizer’s contact information, will appear on the SHOT website (the earlier the proposal is sent to SHOT, the earlier it will be posted to the website.) For individuals who want to join a proposed panel from the open sessions list, please contact the organizer of that panel, not the Program Committee. In order to give the session organizer sufficient time to select proposals and assemble the final panel, the deadline for submitting your paper proposal to the open session organizer is 30 March 2025. Open session organizers will then assemble full panels and submit them through SHOT’s online system by 5 April 2025.
- Individual papers: Proposals for individual papers will be considered, but the Program Committee will give preference to fully organized sessions. Scholars who might ordinarily propose an individual paper are encouraged to propose Open Sessions themselves or to join an Open Session. Deadline: 5 April 2025

SHOT, the program committee and the local host committee look forward to a vigorous, enthusiastic, and intellectually stimulating annual meeting in Esch-sur-Alzette!

Find all information on:

www.historyoftechnology.org

Conference News

- IEEE HISTELCON Bonn (Germany) 30 September - 2 October 2025. First deadline for proposals 14 April 2025, second deadline 25 May 2025. Find all information [here](#).
- T2M - Transport, Traffic & Mobility Conference Eindhoven (the Netherlands) 4-7 November 2025. Deadline for proposals 20 April 2025. Find all information [here](#).
- History of Science Society (HSS) Annual Meeting New Orleans (USA) 13-16 November 2025. Deadline for proposals 11 April 2025. Find all information [here](#).

Please also visit the News section of our website!

News that you would like to share with the SHOT community? [You can submit your news here](#).

Society For The History Of Technology

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