

# HISTORY OF SCIENCE SOCIETY COMMITTEE REPORT

## COMMITTEE ON MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

Submitted by Rachel A. Ankeny on 7 November 2015 (rev)

### ACTIONS REQUIRED:

- New member of CoMP required to replace outgoing member (see below)
- 2017 Toronto LAC appointment required

1. *Describe the committee's completed, ongoing, and planned activities during the current calendar year.*

The committee has performed its activities via email correspondence and will meet in person at the annual meeting in San Francisco. It has considered and discussed the following issues:

- Program co-chair selection for the 3-Societies Meeting in July 2016
- Changes to program format to respond to strategic plan recommendations, including roundtables and poster session
- Policy decisions on cross-listing sessions with caucuses

The Chair of CoMP also has provided ongoing advice to the ED regarding a range of issues, particularly implementation of the strategic plan, program planning, and dealt with miscellaneous programming issues on an ad hoc basis including queries on sessions that were not accepted.

2. *For CoP and CoE, please provide details concerning any budget allocations and expenditures during the current academic fiscal year, July 2014 to June 2015 (outside of the annual meeting). What funds were allocated and how were they used or will be used?*

Not applicable.

3. *Please describe any long-term plans, goals and potential projects for the committee, as well as any potential future concerns or issues you believe the committee could face.*

The outcomes of the strategic planning processes have had considerable implications for CoMP vis a vis how meetings are conducted, etc. and we will continue to work closely with the ED on implementing the recommendations.

Ongoing issues on which we anticipate ongoing discussion and activity include:

- Co-hosting of an annual meeting outside of North America (and outside of usual time period) in Utrecht
- Use of various technologies to enhance or augment our annual meetings
- Review of models for policies on meetings (e.g., AAHM bluebook)
- Continued monitoring of the prize ceremony/reception format
- Fostering more and higher quality interaction with PSA during their co-located biennial meetings

4. *List names of committee members, if applicable. Indicate members whose terms expire in 2015. Also, indicate any preferences for appointments (or reappointments) to the committee. The Executive Committee makes committee assignments at its mid-year meeting and will take any recommendations under consideration.*

Rachel A. Ankeny, 2013-2016, Chair

+Ken Alder OR Bob Richards, 2014 LAC (ex officio)

Brian Dolan, 2015 LAC (ex officio)

+Deborah Coen OR Matthew Stanley, 2014 Program Chairs

\*Arthur Daemrich, 2014-2015 (has requested early end to term given new job/role)

Jim Fleming, 2015-17, Representative from Council

John Krige, 2016 LAC (ex officio)

Susan Lederer OR Florence Hsia, 2015 Program Chairs

Brian Oglivie OR Sigrid Schmalzer, 2016 Program Chairs

Joel Shackelford, 2016 Three-Society Meeting Co-Chair

Karen-Beth G. Scholthof, 2014-2016

*\* Indicates individuals rotating off at end of 2015 for whom replacement is required*

*+Indicates individuals rotating off at end of 2015 for whom reappointment or replacement is not required*

5. *If minutes were recorded at your last meeting, please include them.*

N/A

## HISTORY OF SCIENCE SOCIETY COMMITTEE REPORT

### COMMITTEE ON HONORS AND PRIZES

Submitted by Sarah Igo on October 16, 2015

**Please list here action items that require Executive Committee and/or Council Approval (these include motions that affect policy, budget, and/or practices).**

Note: If necessary, please provide details on an attached page.

**1. Describe the committee's completed, ongoing, and planned activities during the current calendar year.**

The committee's first work this year was determining the nominees to be forwarded on to the Executive Committee for consideration for the Sarton Medal. From an initial list of over twenty short nominations (see #3a below), we deliberated and arrived at a list of five nominees for the award, for which we solicited long nominations. Based on the full nominations, we ultimately recommended three candidates to the Executive Committee for consideration, from which a winner was selected.

The committee also considered, supported, and forwarded on to the Executive Committee, the nomination of Neale W. Watson for one of the special awards of the Society, the Outstanding Service Award.

Each committee member sat as an *ex officio* member on the prize committees of the Society, to advise on protocol and process. Larry Principe sat on the Derek Price/Rod Webster Award committee; Sarah Igo sat on the Nathan Reingold Prize committee and the Pfizer Award committee; Lorraine Daston sat on the Margaret W. Rossiter History of Women in Science Prize committee; Gregg Mitman sat on the Watson Davis and Helen Miles Davis Prize committee; and Jimena Canales sat on the Joseph H. Hazen Education Prize committee.

Finally, we considered one proposal for a new prize to be awarded by the Society (see #3b below) and a policy issue that arose from one of the book prize committees this year (see #3c below).

**2. For CoP and CoE, please provide details concerning any budget allocations and expenditures during the current academic fiscal year, July 2014 to June 2015 (outside of the annual meeting). What funds were allocated and how were they used or will be used?**

N/A

**3. Please describe any long-term plans, goals and potential projects for the committee, as well as any potential future concerns or issues you believe the committee could face.**

We have three policy items to report.

a) This was the first year in which a two-tier process was used for Sarton Medal nominations. Short nominations (a brief statement/rationale for a particular candidate) were solicited in the first stage. From these, the committee arrived at a list of five, for which long nominations were solicited (formal nominations, documentation, and letters of support). We believe this process was quite successful at making the nomination process less effortful and, thus, in yielding a longer list of names at the outset (the main goal of the change). We recommend to the incoming CoHP that the two-step nomination system remain in place. On a related point, we urge that all of the prize competitions be advertised widely, well in advance of the deadline, in order to ensure the largest pool possible.

b) This year we discussed a recommendation forwarded on to our committee for a potential prize to be awarded by the Society for a work not in English. The intent of the prize would be to foster the presence and recognition of work that extends beyond the English-speaking academy. The CoHP is sympathetic to spirit of the suggestion and finds it a worthy idea in principle (one member dissented, arguing that non-English books should be automatically be considered for *all* the prizes the Society offers rather than ‘ghettoizing’ non-English books with a separate prize). However, we find the practical barriers to such a prize insuperable. The reading of, and deliberation about, submissions would require far-reaching and unrealistic language proficiency of the all prize committee members. Too, the fact that we can’t cover all relevant languages could well lead to unintended biases in the way non-English books or articles are considered. So, for the time being, the CoHP does not recommend that this proposal move forward.

c) We also considered a policy issue that arose from this year’s Pfizer Award committee discussions. The question was whether a book that has won an HSS prize is ineligible for a second and different book prize from the Society in another year; or is it simply ineligible for the prize it had been awarded? The Society’s policy currently doesn’t prohibit, but tries to prevent, any book winning more than one prize in a *given year*; but there is no policy (or precedent) for a book winning a prize one year and then winning a *different* prize in a *subsequent* year. Our committee took up this question. We recommend to the Executive Committee that we follow the existing guidelines of discouraging, but not prohibiting, the awarding of two different prizes to a book over separate years.

**4. List names of committee members, if applicable. Indicate members whose terms expire in 2015. Also, indicate any preferences for appointments (or reappointments) to the committee. The Executive Committee makes committee assignments at its mid-year meeting and will take any recommendations under consideration.**

The committee members for the current year are:

Jimena Canales  
Lorraine Daston  
Sarah Igo  
Gregg Mitman  
Lawrence Principe

Lorraine Daston and Sarah Igo were the only continuing members, and their terms will expire this year. The other three members are new as of this year. All are recommended for reappointment, and any would serve well as chair.

**5. If minutes were recorded at your last meeting, please include them.**

N/A

(Thank you for your work on behalf of the Society!)  
Please return this form by Friday, October 16, to:  
[greg@hssonline.org](mailto:greg@hssonline.org)

## 2015 HSS Prizes

Reingold Prize: Evan Hepler-Smith, “‘A way of thinking backwards’: Chemists, computers, and a once and future method”

Price/Webster Prize: Christopher Crenner, “Race and Laboratory Norms: The Critical Insights of Julian Herman Lewis (1891-1989)”

Rossiter Prize: Amy Sue Bix, *Girls Coming to Tech! A History of American Engineering Education for Women* (MIT Press, 2014)

Davis Prize: Martin J.S. Rudwick, *Earth’s Deep History: How It Was Discovered and Why It Matters* (University of Chicago Press, 2014)

Pfizer Prize: Daniel P. Todes, *Ivan Pavlov: A Russian Life in Science* (Oxford University Press, 2014)

Hazen Education Prize: Sally Gregory Kohlstedt

Outstanding Service Award: Neale Wheeler Watson

Sarton Medal: Robert Fox

## HISTORY OF SCIENCE SOCIETY COMMITTEE REPORT

### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Submitted by Kristin Johnson on 5/26/15

1. *Completed, ongoing, and planned activities during the current calendar year:*
  - The Committee has discussed ongoing hopes for a History of Science Society session on the history of science and STEM initiatives in K-12 education, with a view toward future HSS activities within this area. Particular interest exists on this topic given the expansion of the CoE's responsibilities to Engagement, and Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan.
  - Members reviewed and approved the nomination of Joe Dauben as Hazen Lecturer for 2015.
  - Members reviewed and approved HSS endorsement (via non-financial patronage and permission to use the HSS logo on the website) of the *Inter-Divisional Teaching Commission* and the *Maison Européenne des Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société* (MESHS: <http://www.meshs.fr/>) in Lille's International Summer school in the field of the *History and Philosophy of Science & Science Education*.
2. *Details concerning any budget allocations and expenditures during the current academic fiscal year, July 2014 to June 2015 (outside of the annual meeting).* Note Hazen lectureship action above.
3. *Long-term plans, goals and potential projects for the committee:* As noted above, given Goal 4 of the society's strategic plan ("BROADENING OUR REACH: Promote general interest in history of science among educators at all levels and the public, in part by providing opportunities to scholars to expand their audiences and make their work more effective and relevant") and the goal of increasing Engagement, the Committee has been particularly interested in developing a long-term strategy for increasing the role of the society in building upon and taking advantage of STEM initiatives in K-12 education, and has good expertise in this realm represented on the committee. Discussions regarding eventual workshops for local educators at society meetings highlighted the need for strategic and careful, long-term planning for the success of such initiatives. Committee members have also expressed interest in discussing Encyclopedia writing and similar work, given the increasing role of historian of science in such publications, both online and in print.
4. *Committee members:*
  - Kristin Johnson, chair (term expires in 2015)
  - Dawn Digrius, secretary (chair 2016)
  - Muriel Blaisdell (chair 2017)
  - Lloyd Ackert (chair 2018)
  - Erik Peterson (chair 2019)
  - Marsha Richmond (C) (ex officio)

Johnson nominates Amy Fisher (University of Puget Sound) for membership.

## **Technology and Communication Committee**

Report to the Executive Committee

November 10, 2015

Chair: Stephen Weldon

Members: Desiree Capel; Carla Nappi; Fred Gibbs; Matthew L Jones; Alex Wellerstein; Jessica Baron

The new Technology and Communication Committee (TCC) was inaugurated this past summer. Stephen Weldon agreed to be chair of the committee and the following Society members agreed to serve: Desiree Capel; Carla Nappi; Fred Gibbs; Matt Jones; Alex Wellerstein; and Jessica Baron.

The Committee held an online discussion this past summer over three issues:

Assist with a 1-paragraph publication statement (2.1.A)

Find ways to recognize outstanding digital products in the field (2.1.B)

Study costs and benefits of publishing more digital products (2.2.B)

We issued a report of our discussions and sent this to the President.

We have a lunch meeting planned for Saturday during the HSS meeting in San Francisco and will continue our discussion of this report. We also will discuss the question of a data management plan which was provided to us by a committee convened by the NSF and lead by Jane Maienschein.

In addition, we will discuss THATCamp planning. The TCC was not officially involved in THATCamp planning this past year, having been organized after the planning had been underway. Two of the five members of the THATCamp planning committee this year are on the TCC. Membership of the THATCamp committee are: Stephen Weldon Matt Jones, Shih-Pei Chen (MPIWG-Berlin), Tina Gianquitto (School of Mines), and Michelle DiMeo (Chemical Heritage Foundation).

# HISTORY OF SCIENCE SOCIETY COMMITTEE REPORT

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

Submitted by Soraya de Chadarevian (Chair), October 10, 2015

**Please list here action items that require Executive Committee and/or Council Approval (these include motions that affect policy, budget, and/or practices).**

Note: If necessary, please provide details on an attached page.

1. Describe the committee's completed, ongoing, and planned activities during the current calendar year
  - With the new editorship for ISIS now well in place, the most important issue on the CoP agenda this year was the planned tender for a publisher for Isis and Osiris. After reviewing the efforts and costs involved in a full tender, Council in agreement with Floris decided to renegotiate the contract with Chicago that was already on the table. CoP has unanimously supported this decision and has provided some input on Floris's 'wish list' for the new contract. In particular, CoP suggested that rather than asking generally for more space, it would be desirable, and request less additional editorial work, to expand the review section given the importance of reviews in ISIS for promotions and the expansion of publishing in the field. CoP also suggested that reducing the embargo time for OA on articles was more useful to the field than asking for more articles going gold. We understand that the final contract is still under negotiation.

In accordance with the goals set by the Strategic Review CoP has to engage with the digital media opportunities. The newly formed Committee on Technology (CT) will be assisting CoP in this task. Currently CoP is discussing a draft statement supporting digital media scholarship as requested in the Strategic Report. We are aiming to finalize this statement before the San Francisco meeting but it may need further discussion, together with CT, at the meeting itself as there are still some basic points to clarify. Among these are to what extent we can simply endorse the extensive AHA guidelines on the subject or if the statement should also include guidelines for evaluating digital scholarship. So far, CT feels 'lukewarm' towards a statement and prefers the Society finds more direct ways to support digital scholarship. Possibly one does not exclude the other. Stephen Weldon (chair of CT) is already actively planning various digital initiatives like a THAT camp and a Hackathon for the Bibliography at the San Francisco meeting. As incoming chair of CoP Soraya de Chadarevian chaired a well-attended panel on Open access: what next? with Mary Ellen Davis, Exec Dir, Association of College and Research Libraries, Michael Magoulias, Director, University of Chicago Press Journals Division, H. Floris Cohen, Editor, HSS and Steven Wheatley, Vice President, American Council of Learned Societies at last year's HSS meeting. These conversations will continue.

- On one occasion CoP advised Floris of how to deal with a suspected case of plagiarism in a book sent out to a reviewer. We concurred with Floris that the right course of action was not to review the book and leave the matter to the press that published the book to inquire.
- Carrying over from last year, CoP still has to consider a process for appointing an interim editor in case the editor cannot fulfill his or her duties as well as formulate a procedure for appeal cases against the editor's decision to reject a paper. We will put these two points on the agenda for the meeting in San Francisco. .

2. For CoP and CoE, please provide details concerning any budget allocations and expenditures during the current academic fiscal year, July 2014 to June 2015 (outside of the annual meeting). What funds were allocated and how were they used or will be used?

No funds have been allocated.

3. Please describe any long-term plans, goals and potential projects for the committee, as well as any potential future concerns or issues you believe the committee could face.

Digital media will undoubtedly concern CoP beyond this current calendar year. As we move on, the relation of CT with CoP on these questions might need to be clarified.

4. List names of committee members, if applicable. Indicate members whose terms expire in 2015. Also, indicate any preferences for appointments (or reappointments) to the committee. The Executive Committee makes committee assignments at its mid-year meeting and will take any recommendations under consideration.

Soraya de Chadarevian (2011-2015); Florence Hsia (2012–2016); Michael D. Gordin (2013–2017); Katharine Anderson (2014–2018); Matthew Jones (2015-2019).

Suggestions for new member: Alex Csiszar (Harvard); Deborah Cohen (Barnard College)

5. If minutes were recorded at your last meeting, please include them.

The minutes are attached.