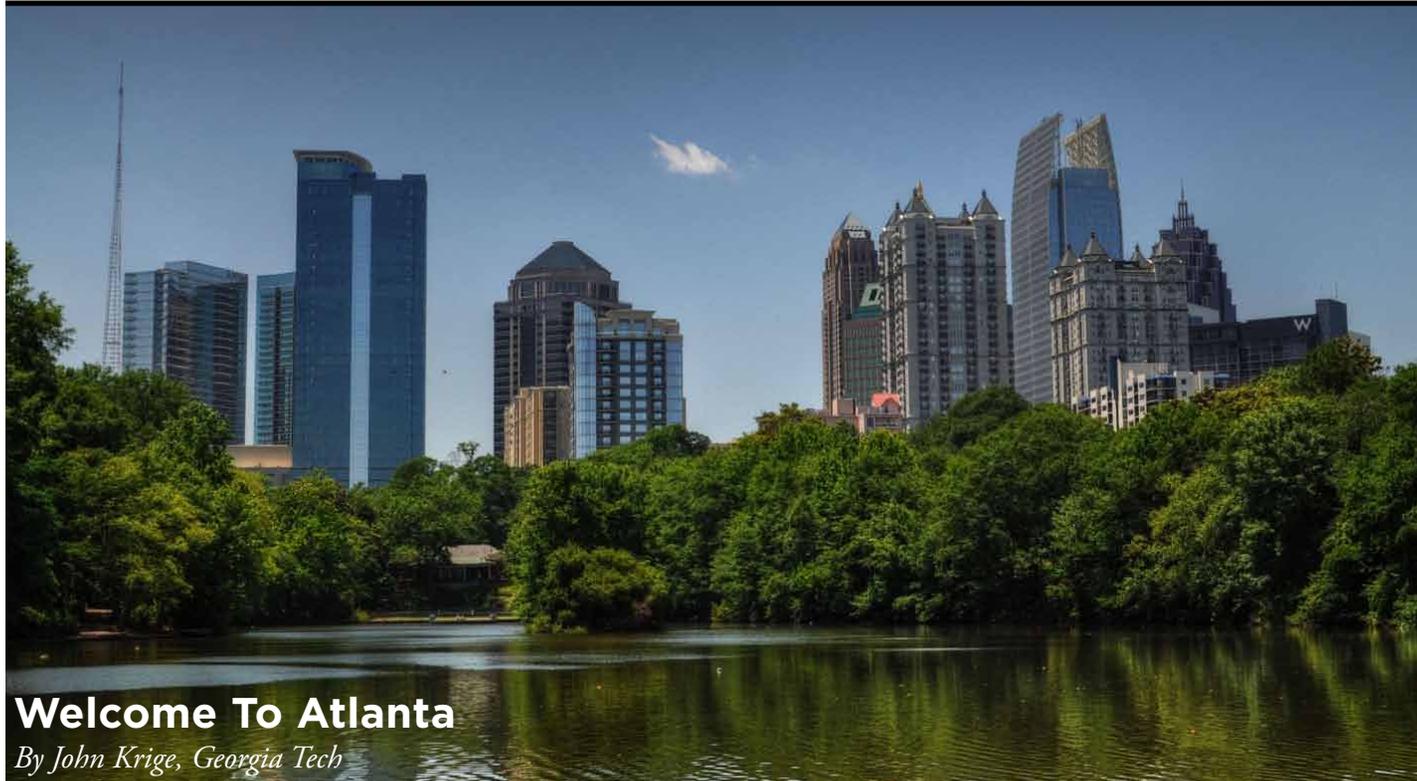


Newsletter

of the History of Science Society

*Vol. 45, No. 4
October 2016*



Welcome To Atlanta

By John Krige, Georgia Tech

Atlanta's Midtown

Most people who travel regularly tell me that they have been to Atlanta—meaning of course to the airport, ranked the world's busiest by passenger traffic for the past several years. This rather limited impression of the city can only be further degraded if you arrive at rush hour and drive through the downtown area: the two freeways that carve right through the heart of Atlanta are overwhelmed by commuters in the Greater Atlanta area that now numbers over 6 million people.

That being said this is a city on the move, noteworthy for its vibrant music scene, its African American business community, and significant Cambodian, Ethiopian, Korean and Mexican communities catered to by several huge “farmer’s markets” that have a dazzling display of fresh and packaged produce from all over the world.

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Welcome To Atlanta, *cont.*

Atlanta is also noteworthy for having a large LGBT community that is particularly present in Midtown, the cultural hub of Atlanta adjacent to Piedmont Park and the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, and home to the High Museum of Art, the Woodruff Arts Center and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

Atlanta is also the heart of higher education in the South. Three major HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) have their campuses here: Clark Atlanta, Morehouse and Spelman. Emory University (ranked 20th nationally) and the Georgia Institute of Technology (ranked 34th) are only a short distance from the conference location, which actually embraces downtown Georgia State University, the largest university in Georgia.

I know this is degenerating into a list but let's not forget the significance of Atlanta in recent civil rights history, as exemplified in the Martin Luther King Memorial Center. The Jimmy Carter Museum and Presidential Library is only a mile or two away from your hotel. The Southeastern Branch of NARA (the National Archives and Records Administration) is a 45-minute drive south in Morrow, Georgia for those who want to slip away from the conference and do some quiet research. Need I also mention that Coca-Cola has its headquarters and a fascinating museum here,

that CNN is based in Atlanta, and that you can visit the Margaret Mitchell House about a mile down Peachtree Street from the Westin, stopping by the iconic Georgian Terrace Hotel that hosted the premiere gala of "Gone with the Wind."

Atlanta has much to offer, particularly if one can escape the downtown area if only briefly to jog in Piedmont Park, to walk the "beltline" that has a point of entry adjacent to the Park, to dine in Midtown, or to relax on the magnificent piazza of the High Museum designed by Renzo Piano. Welcome to Atlanta: may you leave with happy memories of another wonderful HSS Conference and with new insights into the richness of this major southern city.

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Moving?

Please notify both the HSS Executive Office and the University of Chicago Press.

Editorial Policies, Advertising and Submissions

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The *Newsletter* is edited and published in the Executive Office. The format and editorial policies are determined by the Executive Director in consultation with the Society Editor. All advertising copy must be submitted in electronic form. Advertisements are accepted on a space-available basis only, and the Society reserves the right not to print a submission. The rates are as follows: Full page (10 x 7"), \$625; Horizontal or Vertical Half page (5 x 7"), \$375; Quarter page (5 x 3.5"), \$225. The deadline for insertion orders is six weeks prior to the month of publication and should be sent to info@hssonline.org. Please send photographs in a jpeg format, with a maximum size of 1024 pixels and file size of 1 MB to maintain quality during sizing and printing. The deadline for news, announcements, and job/fellowship/prize listings is firm: four weeks prior to the month of publication. Long items (feature stories) should be submitted eight weeks prior to the month of publication. Please send all material to the attention of the Executive Office: info@hssonline.org.

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Should We Teach Science and Engineering as Practices?

by Mark Bourgeois, University of Notre Dame

What do engineers and scientists need to know? At least in the U.S., our educational system seems to demonstrate that, beyond technical competence, the answer is: surprisingly little. There are two common classes of exceptions. For undergraduates, most institutions still maintain general-education requirements. And for advanced graduate students, there is sponsor-mandated ethics training (such as the Protecting Human Research Participants training required by the NIH) and in most cases limited professional skills development (such as public speaking or grant writing).

But as specialization and technical complexity grow, science and engineering undergraduates find less and less space in their schedule to take, for example, humanities courses. Worse, such diversification is too often seen as a diversion, a token sacrifice for the sake of becoming a more “well rounded” person outside of work. This limited focus continues in graduate ethics training, which consists of a series of rule-based exhortations and, mostly, prohibitions: conduct your research with integrity; do not fabricate; do not take credit for the ideas of others; obtain informed consent; avoid conflicts of interest. Ethics becomes little more than the rules of the road.

Intended or not, the clear message implicit in this arrangement is that scientists and engineers need only concern themselves with the technical execution of their work. They should leave it to others to worry about what to do with, and about, the results. As specialization increases, we see this attitude in many other professional programs, as well. Indeed, in some sense we see this throughout the University: in the call for Return on Investment (ROI), in the quantification of learning goals, and in the idea that the purpose of higher education is job training. All of these trends share a focus on market demands, quantified rewards, and skills-oriented specialization.

Why does this matter? What is wrong with a predominantly technical education for technical students? There are myriad related issues with this. First, and most obviously, scientists and engineers know the most about the science and technology they work on and what it may lead to. In an era increasingly shaped by the progress of these fields, if the workers closest to these innovations cannot help shape the research and its product towards ethical, socially productive ends then we may lose the best opportunity to do so. Second, when we arm them only with technical skills, we risk creating

professionals who are merely mercenaries to the market. To the degree that this occurs, compromised ethical conduct is likely to follow, and the professions themselves may become rudderless. Finally, on the most general level, democratic societies need social leaders and invested, engaged citizens. Technical training alone does not promote these attitudes or the skills necessary for their exercise—skills such as empathy, discernment and communication. In short, we need professionals who take the social dimensions into account in their work; we need well-rounded, autonomous professionals who respond to more than just market demands; and we also need citizens who can actively engage the moral issues of the day. How can we possibly hope to achieve all of this?

One promising option is to re-characterize these professions as social *practices*, in the virtue ethics sense described by Alasdair MacIntyre in *After Virtue* (hereafter abbreviated AV) and elsewhere. Indeed, to do this is to recapture at least some of the original sense of the “professions” as independent socially-oriented vocations, distinct from mere jobs. What is a practice? In short, a practice is “any coherent and complex form of socially established cooperative human activity

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Should We Teach Science and Engineering as Practices, *cont.*

through which goods internal to that form of activity are realized” (AV 187).

The distinguishing property of a practice is that each has its own set of *internal goods* which help to constitute it—goods unique to the practice as experienced by the practitioners, and unavailable in any other way. For example, at the most general level, uncovering an eternal truth of nature is an internal good of the practice of science, while creating something of lasting utility is an internal good of engineering. Crucially, the internal goods and their standards are not only what organize the practice but are a subject of *ongoing* clarification and refinement within the practice itself. A practice does inherently involve the development and deployment of highly specialized and refined technical skills. Yet a practice is “never just a set of technical skills” (AV 193).

Instead, a practice is a site for the development of *virtues*. Indeed, virtues just *are* those traits which enable the successful pursuit of the internal goods at stake in the practice. We see virtues at work on several levels in a practice. To begin with there are what might be called (though MacIntyre himself does not use these labels) “initiation level” virtues, those personal traits without which one cannot begin to engage the practice as it exists. These include justice, courage, and honesty, all of which enable us to

subject ourselves in good faith to tutelage in a practice (AV 191).

Next, there are specific “practice level” virtues, which enable the attainment of the goods unique to a given practice. Examples include creativity, innovative thinking, and valuing elegance and efficiency in design. Each of these will have specific flavors and interpretations in distinct practices—the elegance of an algorithm will be somewhat different from that of a scientific theory. The appreciation and pursuit of each form helps to define the respective practice.

Finally, expanding somewhat on MacIntyre’s schema, there are what might be called the “aspirational virtues” of a practice—traits that promote goods enjoyed not just by the practitioner and the practice but by the larger society in which the practice is undertaken. For science and engineering this may include the drive to discover cures for disease or to develop new tools to address social and environmental problems. Part of the role of a practice is to continually decide which of these traits is to be absorbed into the practice-level virtues, and thus incorporated as a foundational motivation for the work.

All of these internal goods are shared goods and thus unlimited. One individual’s attainment of these goods does not take away from any others’;

rather, it adds to the sum total. Moreover, each of these has profound communal dimensions. Only together and in dialogue can practitioners seek and refine these goods.

This brief summary, of course, cannot begin to do full justice to the idea of a practice, or to their associated virtues. But it should suffice to highlight what is so valuable in this concept and perhaps worth embracing as an antidote to narrow technical specialization. When an occupation is conceived of as a practice, training in it takes on an entirely different and inherently broader character. In short, there is not simply requisite technical skills accompanied by optional (and personal) virtues. There is instead a complex of skills, including the technical, ethical, and social unified under a distinct and shared sense of virtue.

This concept of technical professions as practices clearly holds profound implications for how scientists and engineers should be trained. This perspective unites ostensibly exclusive “humanities” and “STEM” domains at a fundamental level. Indeed, they are seen merely as different but complementary skill sets, both entirely necessary to the ultimate good which is being sought. This means that in order to properly train for their practice, technical students need far more than just technical skills.

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Should We Teach Science and Engineering as Practices, *cont.*

They need, for example, a sense of the history of their profession, its role in society, the conflicts which have formed it and continue to challenge it. They also need a sense of the personal virtues that being a practitioner requires and entails, such as perseverance, compassion, and humility. And they also need a keen sense of the good life which is constituted by the practice—the sense of accomplishment at an elegant design or experiment, the satisfaction in providing society new powers or knowledge, the intense engagement of mastering a new technical skill.

None of these internal goods are directly connected to the external, extrinsic goods attached to the practice: notably money, social status, and power. None of these goods are *themselves* about ‘getting a good job’ or achieving a high status. Rather, they are intrinsic to the worth of the work. Of course, the external goods may and should follow to some degree from the attainment of these internal goods. The engineer who takes pleasure in an effective and efficient design can expect to earn a good salary precisely for the ability to achieve these results. But there is a great difference in priority and ethical orientation between one end or the other—the intrinsic internal goods or the contingent external rewards—being the immediate goal, the point of the exercise—indeed, the point of the life itself. It is currently

the external, instrumental ends which seem to implicitly hold sway in how training in these professions is presented to students today.

Of course, none of this is to say that rigorous technical training does not remain at the heart of what makes a scientist a scientist or an engineer an engineer. Rather, it is to position training that extends beyond the technical as something fully integral to professional preparation and not ancillary to it.

We cannot continue to train scientists and engineers as technicians, and simply dose them with the occasional inoculation against misconduct in the form of a few ethics cases supplemented by a bit of professional development; nor can we expect a few outside courses in the humanities to hold relevance for how undergraduates will pursue their careers. To produce socially engaged, conscientious scientists and engineers we need to provide students with a fundamentally new perspective on what it *means* to be a scientist or an engineer, and why they should want to be one.

Ultimately, the question comes down to whether we aim to train technicians or citizens. Positioning professional education as technical skills training, however sophisticated, deprives us of active, invested citizens who are up to the task of shaping their profession and the vital

role it plays in our society. Indeed, as this holds for scientists and engineers, in principle it also holds for nearly all professions.

Such a conception is, frankly, countercultural to today’s “market” orientation, where even philosophy departments are expected to demonstrate ROI. Given this reality, approaching science and engineering as true practices may seem almost deliberately naïve. But it is perhaps only in such a way that we can continue to maintain a recognizable moral culture distinguishable from a market—not just in education but in society at large.

For further reading:

Alasdair MacIntyre, *After Virtue*, Third edition, University of Notre Dame Press, 2007 (First edition 1981).

Daniel J. Hicks and Thomas A. Stapleford, “The Virtues of Scientific Practice: MacIntyre, Virtue Ethics, and the Historiography of Science,” *Isis*, v.107, no. 43, pp. 449-472.

Langdon Winner, *Engineering Ethics and Political Imagination in Broad and Narrow Interpretations of Philosophy of Technology*, Volume 7 of the series *Philosophy and Technology*, pp. 53-64

Shannon Vallor, *Technologies and the Virtues*, Oxford University Press, 2016

Member News

Gar Allen, Professor of Biology *Emeritus* at Washington University in St. Louis, retired in 2014 but has been busy with several projects. He published a number of articles on aspects of early twentieth-century genetics, evolution and embryology, including:

- “The History of Evolutionary Thought,” in *The Princeton Guide to Evolution*, Jonathan B. Losos, ed. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2014): pp. 10-27
- “Origins of the Classical Gene Concept, 1900-1950: Genetics, Mechanistic Philosophy and the Capitalization of Agriculture.” *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* 57 (No 1, Winter, 2014): 8-39
- “How Many Times Can You Be Wrong and Still Be Right? T.H. Morgan, Evolution, Chromosomes and the Origins of Modern Genetics.” *Science & Education* 24 (No. 1, 2015): 77-99
- “Eugenics as an International Movement.” In *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences* 2nd ed: Vol 8 (2015): 224-232
- “Viktor Hamburger, 1900-2001,” *Biographical Memoirs of the National Academy of Sciences* (2015): 39 pp.

In addition, he will be speaking in a lecture series at the University of Kentucky in October, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the

birth of Thomas Hunt Morgan, which also happens to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the publication of Mendel’s paper, and the 50th anniversary of Gar’s completion of his dissertation on Morgan. Between all this, he has also managed to take advantage of retirement to do some bucket-list travels, including to Alaska this past September.

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Joe Bassi’s (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Worldwide) new book *A Scientific Peak: How Boulder became a World Center for Space and Atmospheric Science* [<http://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/S/bo22341241.html>] was selected for an Atmospheric Sciences Librarians International (ASLI) Choice Award as one of the best books in atmospheric sciences in 2015. The book received an “honorable mention” in the history category.

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Darryl E. Brock has joined the faculty at the CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) as Assistant Professor of Latino Studies. At BMCC he will expand his research program of exploring how Puerto Ricans mediated U.S. colonial science into broader Latin America.

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Luis Campos (University of New Mexico) has been selected as the next Baruch S. Blumberg NASA/Library of Congress Chair in Astrobiology. The fourth scholar to hold this

title, he will be in residence for a year at the John W. Kluge Center of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., where he will be researching the intersections between the histories of synthetic biology and astrobiology. For the complete announcement, please visit <https://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2016/16-111.html>.

.....

Lawrence B. Coleman (UC Davis) has built up a collection of physics texts—the vast majority published between 1880 and 1920. He enjoyed seeing how these texts evolved from that earlier era to the current time—texts that he used in his education and then later referred to as a Professor at the University of California, Davis for the past 40 years. Some of these texts were written for college use, others for high school and some are aimed at the general public. Most have wonderful illustrations. All of them are in good to very good condition with some of them authored by well-known American and British scientists—Millikan, Tyndall, Thompson & Bragg.

He wants these books to go to someone who will appreciate them and use them in their own research on the history of physics and physics education. If you are interested, he will send you a PDF listing of the collection. Please contact him at LBColeman@ucdavis.edu.

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The Rise and Fall of the Fax Machine (Johns Hopkins University Press) [<https://jhupbooks>].

Member News, cont.

press.jhu.edu/content/faxed] written by **Jonathan Coopsmith** (Texas A&M University) is the co-recipient of the 2016 Business History Conference Hagley Prize for best book in business history.

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Frederick “Fritz” Davis (Purdue University) has been appointed to the R. Mark Lubbers Chair in the History of Science in the Department of History at Purdue University. He will spend the academic year 2016-17 at the Chinese University of Hong Kong on a Fulbright.

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Ron Doel, Kris Harper and **Matthias Heymann** edited *Exploring Greenland: Cold War Science and Technology on Ice* [<http://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9781137596871>] (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016). The book addresses U.S. fascination with the Arctic—and determination to learn as much about its physical environment—as military planners anticipated that the region was where a war with the Soviet Union would be fought.

.....

U.S. immunologist Charles Janeway (1943-2003) was hailed in a *Lancet* obituary as the “father of innate immunity,” which is the phagocyte-dependent first line of defense against microbial infection. Recently Elie Metchnikoff (1845-1916) was hailed similarly (*Cell* 166: 1665-68). Now **Donald Forsdyke** (Queen’s University, Kingston, Canada) has ascribed paternity to

a London physician, Almroth Wright (1861-1947), upon whom was based a character in Shaw’s “The Doctors Dilemma” (see “Almroth Wright, opsonins, innate immunity and the lectin pathway of complement activation: A historical perspective,” *Microbes & Infection* 18: 450-459).

.....

Tina Gianquitto (Colorado School of Mines) has been granted a Fulbright Lectureship in American Studies to teach U.S. environmental literature at the University of Naples I’Orientale—Dipartimento di Studi letterari, linguistici e comparati for the Spring of 2017.

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Owen Gingerich’s (Harvard University) new book *Copernicus: A Very Short Introduction* was recently published in August 2016 by Oxford University Press. [<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/copernicus-a-very-short-introduction-9780199330966?cc=us&lang=en&>]

.....

Gabrielle Graham (Florida State University) has been promoted from Museum Educator to Visitor Services Supervisor at the Museum of Florida History. As a representative for the Museum of Florida History, she also actively serves as board member at-large for the Community Classroom Consortium, a coalition of cultural, scientific, natural history, and civic organizations in north

Florida and south Georgia, providing educational experiences and resources for students, teachers, the general public, and its members.

.....

The twenty-fifth anniversary of **Gary Hatfield’s** (University of Pennsylvania) *The Natural and the Normative: Theories of Spatial Perception from Kant to Helmholtz* (MIT Press) [<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/natural-and-normative>] was celebrated at the 11th biennial meeting of HOPOS, the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science, in Minneapolis (23-25 June 2016), with a Symposium: “*The Natural and the Normative* at 25: Psychology, Perception, and Measurement in Kant and Helmholtz.” The session was chaired by Scott Edgar (St. Mary’s University) and included talks by: Corey Dyck (Western Ontario), “Empirical and Transcendental Psychology”; Francesca Biagioli (Universität Konstanz), “The Natural and the Normative Reconciled: Helmholtz’s Theory of Measurement”; and Lydia Patton (Virginia Tech), “Helmholtz on Sensory Complexity.” Hatfield responded with his paper “The Natural and the Normative and the Facts in Perception: Two Works Revisited.”

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Frank James (The Royal Institution) is delighted to announce that Michael Faraday’s laboratory notebooks, RI MS F/2/A-J, have been enrolled

Member News, cont.

on the UNESCO Memory of the World register. For further details see <http://rigb.org/about/news/summer-2016/faraday-notebooks-added-to-unesco-register>.

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This summer, **Kathryn Maxson Jones** (Princeton University) received the Mary and Randall Hack '69 Graduate Award from the Princeton Environmental Institute, which supports innovative graduate research on water and water-related topics. For the official news story which features a short summary of the specific research to be conducted over the coming year supported by her award funds, please visit <http://environment.princeton.edu/news/seven-princeton-students-receive-hack-graduate-awards>.

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Melanie Kiechle's (Virginia Tech) article, "Navigating by Nose: Fresh Air, Stench Nuisance, and the Urban Environment, 1840-1880" was recently published in the *Journal of Urban History* (42, no. 4 (2016): 753-771). [<http://juh.sagepub.com/content/42/4/753.abstract>]

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Sharing Knowledge, Shaping Europe. US Technological Collaboration and Nonproliferation (MIT Press, 2016) by **John Krige** (Georgia Institute of Technology) is now available for purchase at <https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/sharing-knowledge-shaping-europe>.

Wiley Blackwell has published *A Companion to the History of Science*, edited by **Bernard Lightman** (York University) (Wiley Blackwell, 2016) [<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1118620771.html>].

This edited volume, an introduction to the history of science, contains 40 original essays written by experts in the field. It is structured around four analytical categories: roles, places and spaces, communication, and the tools of science.

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As of 1 September 2016, **Brian Ogilvie** (University of Massachusetts Amherst) has been promoted to the rank of (full) Professor and started an appointment as Chair of the History Department at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

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The first *BJHS Themes*, a new, fully open access, peer-reviewed journal from the British Society for the History of Science, was published this month. The issue is titled "Science of Giants: China and India in the Twentieth Century." In this article, one of the volume's editors, **Jahnvi Phalkey** (King's College London), gives her observations on the opportunities and challenges on writing about China and India. To read the article, please visit <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/southasia/2016/08/30/how-to-write-about-china-and-india/>.

Anna Marie Roos, Reader at the University of Lincoln (UK), will be a visiting fellow at All Souls College, University of Oxford in 2017, and was a John Rylands Fellow at the University of Manchester in Summer 2016. Roos was also elected as a member of Council for the British Society for the History of Science in July 2016.

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Gildo Magalhães Santos (University of São Paulo, Brazil) has recently published two books in Brazil:

- *Ciência e conflito. Ensaio sobre História e Epistemologia de ciências e técnicas* (Bookexpress, 2015)
- *Um bit auriverde. Caminhos da tecnologia e do projeto desenvolvimentista na formulação duma política nacional de informática para o Brasil (1971-1992)* (Intermeios, 2016)

He has also been promoted to Full Professor at the History Department, University of São Paulo, Brazil effective August 2016.

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Sigrid Schmalzer (University of Massachusetts, Amherst) recently published *Red Revolution, Green Revolution: Scientific Farming in Socialist China* (University of Chicago Press, 2016). [<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/chicago/R/bo22541357.html>]

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Member News, cont.

Angela D. Shaffer graduated with honors from American Public University System on 15 August 2016, with a Master of Arts in the Humanities. She also joined Golden Key International Honour Society this month. Her graduate research prompted the proposal, "Purple Peculiarities: The Evolving Quest for Meaning, Carroll's Alice as Evidence of Blended Species," which was accepted for the "Humanities, Literature, Cultures, and Arts Global Conference" scheduled for poster presentation on 18 October 2016 in Washington, D.C.

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The Making and Knowing Project, directed by **Pamela H. Smith** (Columbia University), has published two collectively researched and written articles in spring 2016:

- Donna Bilak, Jenny Boulboulle, Joel Klein, and Pamela H. Smith, "The Making and Knowing Project - Reflections, Methods, and New Directions," *New Directions in Making and Knowing*, a special issue, guest edited by Pamela H. Smith, of *West 86th: A Journal of Decorative Arts, Design History, and Material Culture*, 23.1 (2016): 35-55.
- Pamela H. Smith and the Making and Knowing Project, "Historians in the Laboratory: Reconstruction of Renaissance Art and Technology in the Making and Knowing Project," *Art History*, special issue on Art and Technology, 39.2 (2016): 210-233.

James Strick was promoted to full Professor of Science, Technology and Society at Franklin and Marshall College. In addition, he received the College's Bradley R. Dewey Award for 2016-17 which celebrates faculty research of high caliber. The award notice cited Strick's entire body of work but emphasized his recent book with Harvard University Press, titled *Wilhelm Reich, Biologist*.

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Elly Truitt (Bryn Mawr College) will be a visiting fellow at the MPIWG in Berlin for two months in the spring of 2017, working on a project about Roger Bacon and speculative technology. She was also awarded a New Directions Fellowship from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to learn Arabic and study Arabic scientific manuscripts.

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Hasan Hasan Umut is a PhD candidate at the Institute of Islamic Studies at McGill and is working on the history of science in Islamic societies with a particular interest in astronomy. He was awarded the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation & McGill Fellowship in the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, which has been initiated by these two institutions this year. Under this fellowship, he conducts research in the Canada Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa.

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Conevery Bolton Valencius has accepted a new appointment as Professor in the History Department at Boston College. This year, she is Katherine Hampson Bessell Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, where she is working on the history of induced seismicity and hydraulic fracturing.

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Mark A. Waddell (Lyman Briggs College and Department of History) has recently been awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor at Michigan State University. He will also be an Allington Fellow in the fall at the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia.

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Congratulations to the New Doctors

During a history conference, I was sharing a room with a recent post doc, and he confided in me his difficulty in renewing his membership in HSS given the sizable difference between what students pay and the regular member rate. This to me seemed an opportunity both to celebrate a significant achievement and to encourage scholars to maintain (or begin) their membership in the HSS. The Society thus created a free e-membership for those who received their PhD in the prior year and who are no longer eligible for student memberships. To claim your free membership, go to

Member News, cont.

<https://subfill.uchicago.edu/JournalPUBS/HSSpromotion.aspx>. You will receive all of the regular benefits, including discounted meeting registration, and if you are already a member, your membership (electronic only) will be extended by one year at no cost.

Jay Malone, HSS Executive Director

JSTOR for HSS Members

In its strategic plan, HSS identified professional development as one of our six goals. Specifically, the Society is focusing on supporting the “professional development of emerging history of science scholars in and outside the academy.” One of the ways in which the HSS can help our members advance their research and teaching is to facilitate access to the literature, and we are pleased to work with JSTOR to offer a 50% savings on a one year JPASS subscription for members. JPASS, available as monthly or yearly plans, allows you to read whatever journal article you like and enjoy up to 120 PDF downloads a year from the JSTOR archive, an archive with over 7 million articles from 2 thousand journals (including *Isis* and *Osiris*), representing some 50 academic disciplines.

In addition to past issues of *Isis* and *Osiris*, members may find the following journals of particular interest:

- *The British Journal for the History of Science*
- *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*
- *Science Progress*
- *Science, Technology, & Human Values*

JSTOR adds new titles to JPASS every month so you’ll have a growing collection of the world’s leading scholarly journals only a click away.

HSS members save 50% on a yearly JPASS here: <http://jpass.jstor.org/?soc=HSS&mc=6kiy5hIv99>

HSS Prize Nominations

Gentle Members, please take a few moments to nominate a book in the history of science (broadly but not infinitely conceived) that demonstrates an exemplary achievement, whether it be a work aimed primarily at scholars in the field (Pfizer), the general public (Davis), the role of women in science (Rossiter), or an examination of natural history (Levinson). Academic publishers nominate books *en masse*, including works that strain the imagination when it comes to science, and it is you, our members, who can offer the best insights regarding a work: what makes it notable and why the Society should consider it as path breaking, or important, or just plain interesting. And please remember that works by card-carrying historians of technology, historians of

medicine, historians of the environment, and many other fields have won major HSS prizes. Just type a few sentences stating what sets this book apart. Informed suggestions will elevate our field and that is one of the more important goals of the HSS. To make your nomination, please go to <http://hsonline.org/wpgforms/hss-prize-nomination/>.



Plan Ahead Future HSS Meetings

Atlanta: 2016, 3-6 Nov.

Joint meeting with PSA and the Society for Literature, Science and the Arts

Toronto, Ontario: 2017, 9-12 Nov.

Seattle: 2018, 1-4 Nov.

Joint meeting with PSA

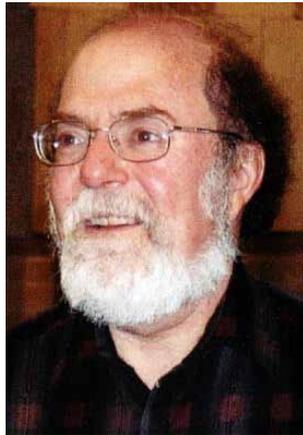
**Utrecht, The Netherlands: 2019,
Early August!**

In Memoriam: Ronald Rainger

Ronald Rainger

28 June 1949 – 25 May 2016

Ron Rainger passed away on 25 May 2016 in Lubbock, Texas after a protracted struggle with Alzheimer's Disease. He was sixty-six years old and left behind his marital partner of thirty-three years, the former Judy Greaves of Portales, New Mexico. They enjoyed a close and devoted relationship that always included an assortment of loving and attentive dogs.



Born and raised in Salt Lake City, Ron developed a life-long passion for western landscapes and for the game of tennis. He graduated from Willamette University (Salem, Oregon), where he excelled in academics and in athletics, having served as a stalwart member of the university's tennis team. He entered graduate school at Indiana University in 1971, receiving his PhD from the Department of History and Philosophy of Science in 1982 under the supervision of Frederick Churchill. Prior to his long and distinguished career at

Texas Tech University (1983-2007), Ron taught at Santa Fe Preparatory School and the University of Arizona. Toward the end of his career, he also served as a Program Officer at the National Science Foundation from 2004-06.

Ron's scholarly career was initially directed toward fin de siècle American science (geology and paleontology), an area to which he contributed importantly with *An Agenda for Antiquity* (1991), a careful study of the scientific work of Henry Fairfield Osborn. While working on the book, which demonstrated the centrality of geology to American biologists' studies of evolutionary arguments, Ron collaborated with his close friends and colleagues Jane Maienschein and Keith Benson to produce the books *The American Development of Biology* (1988) and *The Expansion of American Biology* (1991).

In the mid-1990s, Ron's interest shifted toward the history of oceanography. He was one of the small group of scholars central to the creation of this new specialty area, serving as an early participant in the important Maury Conferences and as one of the early incumbents of the Ritter Memorial Fellowship at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO). Ron studied the organization of professional oceanography and the social and political context of the science in addition to the conceptual and technical development of physical oceanography. Ron

brought all these interests to bear on the career of Roger Revelle, the prolific researcher and administrator who fostered mutual dependence between oceanographers and the U.S. Navy during and after World War II, directed the SIO, had a hand in the founding of UCSD, and documented the role of the greenhouse effect in climate change. Ron was working on a Revelle biography when he first developed symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease and, regrettably, the full work was never finished (though Ron did publish a series of important articles on mid-century oceanography). Perhaps as a way to deal with his limitations, he then narrowed his historical interest to the history of the teaching of evolution in Texas after his retirement from Texas Tech. And while he had conducted several archival investigations and interviews on the subject, the project also remained unfinished.

In addition to his central role in the development of the history of American biology and the history of oceanography, Ron's career was characterized by his steadfast commitment to the craft of historical research. Preferring to detail carefully the actual work of his subjects, he embedded his work deeply within its historical setting. At a time when the history of American biology was dominated by scholars investigating the history of genetics and

In Memoriam, *cont.*

related areas, especially as these areas embraced experimental methods and looked forward to biology's ascendance in the twentieth century, Ron chose to examine the field's descriptive orientation from its natural history roots, investigations that have often been treated in pejorative terms by historians. Ron, however, insisted that careful attention to the practice of biology in the 1920s and 1930s revealed the continued centrality of descriptive approaches, especially their productive contributions to evolutionary studies. Similarly, his interest in Roger Revelle was conducted during a time in which many historians of science turned away from "great man" history. While Ron appreciated the diversity of approaches that have come to characterize our field, he remained keen to understand how some individuals could operate as central figures in a field of scientific research. Sometimes this was through scholarly work and sometimes this was due to the individual's administrative skills; in Revelle, Ron found a scientist who contributed in both arenas.

Ron also leaves behind a rich legacy of service to the field, to younger scholars, and to his students. As NSF Program Chair he relished the opportunity to play a role in supporting others' research, and he was known to be generous far beyond his formal role by lending

assistance and hospitality to those visiting D.C.-area archives and giving extraordinary, selfless help to dissertation-writers whose projects overlapped with his own interests. At conferences and colloquia, at workshops such as the Dibner Institute seminars at Woods Hole, and in venues like the HSS's own Earth and Environment Forum, Ron's wit, wisdom, and humility proved magnetic and made him a mentor to students from other institutions. At Texas Tech, meanwhile, he was awarded the Hemphill Wells New Professor Excellence in Teaching Award in 1986, the Outstanding Graduate Teacher Award in the Department of History in 2001, and the University's President's Excellence in teaching Award in 2001.

But what may eclipse all of Ron's scholarly and pedagogical skills was his deep commitment to friends and colleagues. He was universally loved by those who had the good fortune of being counted among his wide-circle of friends. Equipped with an infectious and self-deprecating sense of humor, Ron was a great companion who loved to laugh and enjoy others. Additionally, he was extremely thoughtful. He remembered birthdays, constantly kept in contact with those who were experiencing challenges in their lives, and often dropped notes or gifts to his friends, apparently

for no other reason than to remind others he was thinking of them. He was a true mensch and will be greatly missed. But he will not be forgotten—HSS is working with the Earth and Environment Forum, one of the Society's interest groups, to establish a prize in Ron's name.

Keith R. Bengtsson
Alistair Sponcel

News from the Profession

The 2016 ACLS Fellowship Recipients

The following 2016 American Council of Learned Societies fellowship recipients are members of the History of Science Society:

- **Ariew, Roger - ACLS Collaborative Research Fellowship**

Professor, Philosophy, University of South Florida

A New Critical Edition and Complete English Translation of the Correspondence of René Descartes

- **Baldwin, Melinda - ACLS Fellowship Program**

Independent Scholar

In Referees We Trust? Scientific Legitimacy and the Rise of Peer Review in the Twentieth Century

- **Biagioli, Mario - ACLS Collaborative Research Fellowship**

Professor, Science and Technology Studies, Law, and History, University of California, Davis
Machine-Made Law: Mapping the Modern Patent Episteme, 1790-2000

- **Dent, Rosanna - Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship**

Doctoral Candidate, History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania
Studying Indigenous Brazil: The Xavante and the Human Sciences, 1958-2015

- **Gaida, Margaret - Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship**

Doctoral Candidate, History of Science, University of Oklahoma

Encounters with Alcabitius: Reading Arabic Astrology in the Latin West, 950-1560

- **Solomon, Adriana Monica - Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship**

Doctoral Candidate, History and Philosophy of Science, University of Notre Dame

On the Interaction between Mathematical Methods and Metaphysics in Isaac Newton's Writings: The Case of Mathematical Forces

- **Statman, Alexander - Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship**

Doctoral Candidate, History, Stanford University

A Global Enlightenment: History, Science, and the Birth of Sinology

Please note that the list is based on voluntary information that fellowship recipients provided as part of their applications. For an overview of all ACLS fellowship recipients, please refer to our website: <http://www.acls.org/fellows/new>.

Application deadlines for the upcoming 2016-17 competitions are posted on the ACLS website, and more detailed information on the individual programs will be available within the next few weeks. Congratulations to all recipients!

2016 *Osiris* Call for Proposals

The Editorial Board of *Osiris* solicits proposals for Volume 35 which will appear in 2020. *Osiris* is an international research journal devoted to the history of science and its cultural influences and is a publication of the History of Science Society and the University of Chicago Press.

Osiris aims to connect the history of science with other areas of historical scholarship. Volumes of the journal are designed to explore how, where, and why science draws upon and contributes to society, culture, and politics. The journal's editors and board members strongly encourage proposals that engage with and examine broad themes while aiming for diversity across time and space. The journal is also very interested in receiving proposals that assess the state of the history of science as a field, broadly construed, in both established and emerging areas of scholarship. Possible future issues, for example, might consider themes such as: Sexuality; Food; Disability and Mobility; Science, Risk, and Disaster; Science in the Global South and/or Africa; Environments and Populations; Time, Temporality, and Periodization.

Proposals should include the following items:

1. A description of the topic and its significance (approximately 2000 words)

News from the Profession, cont.

2. A list of 12 to 15 contributors along with a title and paragraph describing each contributor's individual essay
3. A two-page c.v. of the guest editor(s)

The guest editor(s) and their contributors must be prepared to meet the *Osiris* publication schedule. Volume 35 (2020) will go to press—after refereeing, authors' revisions, and copy-editing—in the fall of 2019. The guest editor(s) must therefore choose contributors who are able to submit their completed essays by the summer of 2018.

Proposals will be reviewed by the *Osiris* Editorial Board at the annual meeting of the History of Science Society in November 2016. The announcement of the next volume of *Osiris* will be made in January 2017.

Proposals and all supporting material should be sent in paper or electronic copy by **15 October 2016** to both:

W. Patrick McCray
Department of History, University of California
Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410
pmccray@history.ucsb.edu

Suman Seth
303 Rockefeller, Hall Department of Science and
Technology Studies, Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
ss536@cornell.edu

CNSF Releases Statement on American Innovation and Competitiveness Act

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF), of which COSSA is an active member, released a statement on July 6 regarding the *American Innovation and Competitiveness Act* (S. 3084). This legislation, which was approved by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on June 29, includes language authorizing the National Science Foundation (NSF); check out COSSA's analysis for full details. The CNSF statement highlights the important role of the NSF in the U.S. innovation and research enterprise and requests that the Senate extend the length of NSF's authorization past the two years currently provided in the bill. CNSF also thanks the Senate for reaffirming the NSF's peer review process, addressing the importance of broadening participation in science, and calling for changes to regulations to all researchers to spend less time attending to administrative requirements. The statement can be read at <http://www.cnsfweb.org/CNSF.AICALetter.SenateCommerce06-28-16.pdf>. A webcast of the Senate Commerce Committee markup of the bill is available at <http://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=9C0C8E6C-E0B8-4EC8-A136-ABECB4FB94D3>.

HPS&ST Note Online

The latest issue of the History and Philosophy of Science Teaching Group's monthly newsletter is on the web at: <http://www.idtc-ihps.com/> in the HPS&ST *Note* folder.

This HPS&ST monthly *Note* is sent to about 7,100 individuals who directly or indirectly have an interest in the connections of history and philosophy of science with theoretical, curricular and pedagogical issues in science teaching, and/or interests in the promotion of more engaging and effective teaching of the history and philosophy of science. The *Note* is sent on to different HPS lists and to science teaching lists.

The *Note* serves the diverse international community of HPS&ST scholars and teachers by disseminating information about events and publications that connect to HPS&ST concerns. It is an information list, not a discussion list. Contributions to the note (publications, conferences etc.) are welcome and should be sent direct to the editor: Michael R. Matthews, UNSW, m.matthews@unsw.edu.au.

THE CONSORTIUM FOR HISTORY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE

(www.chstm.org)

invites scholars to participate in our monthly

ONLINE WORKING GROUPS

on specialized topics in the history of science, technology and medicine.



Working groups meet once per month for discussion of works-in-progress and important publications, convened by top scholars and rising stars in subfields of the history of science, technology and medicine, broadly construed. Last year more than 130 scholars from 72 institutions participated. Scholars can participate in person at the Consortium's offices in Philadelphia, PA, or online through a video conferencing system.

Working groups in 2016-2017 include:

History and Theory

Suman Seth, Cornell University
Laura Stark, Vanderbilt University

History of Physical Sciences

Joe Martin, Consortium for HSTM
Kathryn Olesko, Georgetown University

History of Biological Sciences

Karen Rader, Virginia Commonwealth Univ.
Betty Smocovitis, University of Florida

History of Technology

Martin Collins, Smithsonian Institution
Heidi Voskuhl, University of Pennsylvania

History and Philosophy of Science

Gary Hatfield, University of Pennsylvania
Miriam Solomon, Temple University

History of Human Sciences

Jamie Cohen-Cole, George Washington Univ.

History of Early Modern Sciences

Peter Dear, Cornell University
Robert Westman, U.C., San Diego

History of Ancient & Medieval Sciences

Nahyan Fancy, DePauw University
Darin Hayton, Haverford College

Science Beyond the West

Mary Brazelton, University of Cambridge
Ramah McKay, University of Pennsylvania
Projit Mukharji, University of Pennsylvania

History of Medicine and Health

Paul Theerman, New York Academy of Medicine
Nancy Tomes, Stony Brook University
Keith Wailoo, Princeton University

History of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Frederick Davis, Purdue University
Jeremy Vetter, University of Arizona

For more information, or to express interest in joining a group,
visit <http://www.chstm.org/groups/working>

For more information about the Consortium and its programs, including fellowships,
visit www.chstm.org

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News from the Profession, cont.

Announcing the 2016-17 Fellows of the Beckman Center at CHF

The Beckman Center for the History of Chemistry, at the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia, is pleased to announce its 2016-2017 class of fellows. For more information about the Beckman Center and its programs, see www.chemheritage.org/beckmancenter.

Cain Senior Fellow (4 months in residence)
Frank Zelko (University of Vermont).

“Precious Bodily Fluids: What the History of Fluoride Tells Us About Science, Public Health, and the Politics of Knowledge”

Long-Term Postdoctoral Fellows (9-months in residence)

- Thomas Apel (Menlo College).
Haas Fellowship: “Translating Lavoisier: French Chemistry and the Making of American Science, 1790-1830.”
- Agnieszka Rec (Yale University).
Herdegen Fellowship: “Blood is Thicker than Aqua Regia: Alchemical Networks in Sixteenth-Century Central and Eastern Europe.”
- Jean-Olivier Richard (Johns Hopkins University).
Cain Fellowship: “Mixture Makers: The Role of Mankind in Père Castel’s Matter Theory.”

Long-Term Dissertation Fellows (9 months in residence)

- Cari Casteel (Auburn University).
Price Fellowship: “The Odor of Things: Deodorant, Gender, and Olfaction in the United States.”
- Kirsten Moore-Sheeley (Johns Hopkins University).
Haas Fellowship: “Nothing But Nets: History of Insecticide Treated Nets, 1980s-Present.”
- Elisabeth Moreau (Université Libre de Bruxelles).
Haas Fellowship: “The Composition of Life and Health: Elements, Particles, and Atoms in Late Renaissance Physiology.”

Short-Term Fellows

- Sarah Ehlers (University of Leicester).
“Pharmaceutical Crossings: Chemotherapeutic Research between Europe, Colonial Africa, and the US.” (2 months)
- Lynne Friedmann (Freelance Science Writer).
“Ink Chemists of the Industrial Revolution.” (3 months)
- Ute Frietsch (HAB Wolfenbüttel).
“Hidden helpers? An Investigation into Women’s Activities in Early Modern Alchemy/chemistry.” (3 months)
- Marieke Hendriksen (Utrecht University).
“Boerhaave’s Mineral Chemistry and Its

Influence on Eighteenth-century Pharmacy.” (1 month)

- Gabriel Moshenska (University College London).
“The Development of Gas Masks in the Early Twentieth Century.” (2 months)
- Ingemar Pettersson (Uppsala University).
“Masters of Flavor: Sensory Analysis and High Industrial Food.” (2 months)
- Marlise Rijks (Ghent University).
“By Human Hands. Counterfeiting Nature in Early Modern Europe.” (1 month)
- Michael Rossi (University of Chicago).
“Between Objectivity, Subjectivity, and Aesthetics: Color Chemistry, Measurement and Manufacture, 1830 to 1930.” (2 months)
- Sharon Ruston (Lancaster University).
“The Collected Letters of Sir Humphry Davy.” (2 months)
- Oscar Torres (Colegio de Mexico).
“Miners, Oilmen and Chemists: Globalization and Technology in Mexican Sulphur Industry (1920 - 1972).” (2 months)
- Mark Waddell (Michigan State University).
“The Devil’s Cure: Magical Medicine and the Problem of Plausibility in the Seventeenth Century.” (1 month)

News from the Profession, cont.

C.F. Reynolds Medical History Society Meetings

The C.F. Reynolds Medical History Society invites members and their guests to their 2016-2017 meetings co-sponsored by the Health Sciences Library System, University of Pittsburgh.

November 1, 2016:

24th Annual Sylvan E. Stool History of Medicine Lecture

Charles Bryan, M. D., Heyward Gibbes Distinguished Professor of Internal Medicine, Emeritus, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.
“Verbing Faith: An Early Medical Humanist.”

January 24, 2017:

Donald S. Burke, M.D., Dean, Graduate School of Public Health Associate, Vice Chancellor in Global Health, University of Pittsburgh
“Origins of the World Health Organization’s Definition of Health: Pittsburgh Threads.”

February 28, 2017:

6th Annual Jonathon Erlen History of Medicine Lecture

Douglas Lanska, M.D., Professor of Neurology, University of Wisconsin,
“Seeing Things Differently: Insights on Perception and Disorders of Movement from the Dawn of Motion Pictures.”

April 5, 2017:

29th Annual Mark M. Ravitch History of Medicine Lecture

Marc E. Mitchell, M.D, Professor of Surgery, University of Mississippi Medical Center,
“James D. Hardy and the First Heart and Lung Transplants at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.”

All lectures will be held in Lecture Room #5, Scaife Hall, University of Pittsburgh, at 6 PM. A dinner for members and their guests in the 11th floor Conference Center, Scaife Hall will follow each of the five individual lectures. The society hopes that you and any interested colleagues will join them for these five evenings of historical lectures and discussions. The C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society appreciates your continuing support and is confident that you will enjoy this coming year’s programming. Please refer all questions on the Society and its programming to the Society’s Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Jonathon Erlen, 412-648-8927; erlen@pitt.edu.

ACLS’s Public Fellows Program

The American Council of Learned Societies, in conjunction with the Mellon Foundation, established a Public Fellows Program in 2011. The program offers recent PhDs from a

humanistic discipline 2-year paid placements at selected government agencies and non profit groups. The annual stipend of \$65,000 include health insurance and up to \$3,000 in professional development. To learn more, go to <https://mellon.org/resources/shared-experiences-blog/what-can-you-do-phd/>.

Latest Doctoral Dissertations

You can view the latest batch of recent doctoral dissertations harvested from the issues 76-09 A and B of Dissertation Abstracts that pertain to the broad scope the history of science and medicine at the following URL: <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/histmed/dissertations>

ProQuest has altered how they put out their individual issues. No longer do they correlate to one month, so the dating is more random. Thus titles will range from 2016 back into the 1930s.

Because ProQuest has begun downloading a large number of earlier dissertations from many institutions a decision has been made to only include titles going back to 2010 in this database. Anyone who wants the complete list of titles on this topic should email me directly at erlen@pitt.edu and I will email you the full list.

News from the Profession, cont.

Historians of Chemistry Gather in Philadelphia

On 20-24 August 2016, around 13,000 registrants assembled in Philadelphia for the 252nd national meeting of the American Chemical Society. Among the thirty-some sections of the ACS is the lively and popular History of Chemistry Division (HIST), under whose auspices 42 papers were presented in 11 scholarly sessions. Inter alia, two sessions were devoted to the subject “Chemistry in America, 1676-1876,” during which (for example) William Newman discoursed on New England “chymistry” in the generation after George Starkey.

The two sessions with perhaps the greatest interest for historians of science were a 90th birthday tribute to Otto Theodor Benfey, the noted chemist and historian of chemistry at Guilford College, and the HIST Award session honoring Ursula Klein, senior research scholar at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. In the session honoring Ted Benfey, Mary Ellen Bowden described the “second generation” in the Center for the History of Chemistry (now part of the Chemical Heritage Foundation); Bill Newman examined the changing historiography of Newton’s chymistry; Alan Rocke offered a new perspective on the Kekulé-Couper rivalry; Jeff Seeman shared some treasured memories of the honoree; two former colleagues and Ted’s son

presented tributes; and a boyhood chum of Ted’s from 1930s Berlin returned to pay respects. The session was capped by an eloquent and moving autobiographical talk by Ted Benfey, who is still a lively presence at the podium.

The 2016 HIST Award for Outstanding Achievement in History of Chemistry was presented to the eminent Prof. Dr. Ursula Klein on 23 August at a symposium organized by Mary Jo Nye, Stephen Weininger, and Alan Rocke. Presenters included Wolfgang Lefèvre on the collaborative character of the *Méthode de Nomenclature Chimique* (1787); Michael Gordin on the periodic table as a paper tool;

Alan Rocke on Erlenmeyer’s entrepreneurial career; Mary Jo Nye on early Nobel Awards and what they say about changing specialties; Stephen Weininger on physical organic chemistry in 20th-century Germany; and Evan Hepler-Smith on paper tools, nomenclature, and the influence of François Dagognet. The session ended with a stimulating presentation by Professor Klein on “Chemists for the Common Good,” concentrating on chemists in Prussian government service in the eighteenth century.

All in all, it was an interesting, instructive, and enjoyable five days for historians of chemistry in the City of Brotherly Love.



Ursula Klein receiving the 2016 HIST award on 23 August, handed to her by Gary Patterson, chair of the History Division of ACS. (Picture by Vera Mainz)



Photo of a presentation of a plaque on 21 August to Otto Theodor Benfey at the session celebrating his 90th birthday. Others in the picture are Gary Patterson, Vera Mainz (Secretary-Treasurer of HIST), and Jeffrey Seeman, organizer of the symposium. (Picture by John Sharkey)

News from the Profession, cont.

Lever Press Call for Works and Series

The Lever Press, a peer-reviewed, open-access publisher of scholarly monographs in the humanities, the arts, and the humanistic social sciences, has officially launched and now issues a call for works and series.

Conceived by an initiative of the Oberlin Group, a consortium of eighty liberal arts colleges across the nation, the Lever Press is made possible by funding commitments from more than forty college and university libraries within and beyond Oberlin's membership, and run by a partnership of two established scholarly publishers—the Amherst College Press and Michigan Publishing at the University of Michigan. Lever Press is guided by a cross-institutional, multidisciplinary editorial board of distinguished scholars:

- **Darin Hayton**, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of History, Haverford College
- **Nicolle Hirschfeld**, Associate Professor of Classical Studies, Trinity University
- **Matthew Johnson**, Assistant Professor and Chair of East Asian Studies, Grinnell College
- **Rebecca Futo Kennedy**, Associate Professor of Classical Studies and Interim Director of the Denison Museum, Denison University
- **Frederick Knight**, Professor and Chairman of History, Morehouse College

- **Karil Kucera**, Associate Professor of Art History and Asian Studies and Chair, Asian Studies St. Olaf College
- **Jason Mittell**, Professor of Film and Media Culture and American Studies and Faculty Director, Digital Liberal Arts Initiative, Middlebury College
- **Mary Crone Odekon**, Professor and Chair, Department of Physics, Skidmore College
- **Aaron Simmons**, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Furman University
- **Lisa Trivedi**, Professor of History, Hamilton College
- **Josephine Wright**, Professor of Music, The Josephine Lincoln Morris Professor of Black Studies, and Chair, Department of Africana Studies, The College of Wooster

In giving shape to its emerging editorial program, Lever Press has developed a “Guidance to Authors” signaling an interest in works characterized by three qualities:

- **Exhibit the deep commitment to interdisciplinarity** that is native to smaller academic communities where faculty members daily collaborate across field boundaries. We are particularly interested in projects that connect perspectives from the sciences, arts, and humanities.
- **Engage with major social issues facing our**

communities. Founded on strong ethical and religious principles, liberal arts colleges are the location of important debates about the grand challenges that face our society which we hope to manifest in our publications.

- **Blur the traditional lines between “research” and “teaching,”** creating resources ideally suited for experiential learning environments. Liberal arts colleges have reinvented the pedagogy of engagement and our publications will reflect that commitment. Among other things, we are interested in projects curated by faculty members that involve undergraduates in the process of creation and highlight their contributions.

Proposals for new works and new series are now being welcomed at the Lever Press website. Information and instructions for submissions may be found at <http://www.leverpress.org/authors/>

ICHST Approved Symposium Proposals

The International Program Committee of the 25th ICHST in Rio has released its list of approved symposium proposals (http://www.ichst2017.sbhc.org.br/conteudo/view?ID_CONTEUDO=289). For more information on the symposia approved and the contact e-mails of their organizers, please click in the link “more info,” which is immediately below the references of each symposium.

News from the Profession, cont.

Video Shares Insights into NIH Grant Application and Peer Review Process

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center for Scientific Review (CSR) recently posted a video compiling insights from individuals who have participated in the NIH's peer review process, including peer reviewers, study section chairs, and NIH staff. The video is designed to guide applicants in planning and writing a competitive grant application, including writing the summary and specific aims sections of the application; explaining why the research is essential; and the importance of explaining proposed techniques, among other suggestions. The video is part of CSR's Insider's Guide to Peer Review for Applicants. (<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2016/06/30/insights-from-peer-reviewers-and-nih-staff-on-putting-together-your-application/>)

The "Open Mind" TV Series Features HSS Members

James Hansen of Columbia University's Earth Institute talks about preserving the planet for the next generation in the latest "Open Mind" episode hosted by Alexander Heffner. Naomi Oreskes also spoke on "Open Mind" in the episode, "The Pope and the Planet." For more

information and to view the episodes, please visit <http://www.thirteen.org/openmind/science/>.

Inaugural Issue of *BJHS Themes*

BJHS Themes is a new, fully open access, peer-reviewed journal for the history of science. It publishes annual thematic collections aimed at animating the history of science community; insightful, original and timely studies that hit the historiographical moment. Articles are free to read online for all and, in most circumstances, free for the author too.

BJHS Themes aims to publish open access, high-quality, scholarly, engaging collections of history of science papers, each collection of which will address a provocative theme. The journal is wholly open access—free to read online and normally free for authors too—funded through a collaboration between the British Society for the History of Science and Cambridge University Press. Now is the right time to launch a journal of this kind, because there is a need for an outlet through which edited collections of high quality history of science can reach a broad, scholarly audience. As a rigorously peer-reviewed, professionally-published, open access journals, *BJHS Themes* meets this need.

Like its sister publication, the *British Journal for the History of Science*, *BJHS Themes* is a

journal of the British Society for the History of Science (BSHS), a major learned society for its subject. There is one issue per year, consisting of more than 256 pages. To learn more about the publication of the inaugural issue of *BJHS Themes*, which is modelled on *Osiris*, please visit <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=BJT>.

Linda Hall Library Seeks Fellows Among Science, Technology Historians

The Linda Hall Library is pleased to announce its fellowship program for the academic year 2017/18. Fellowships, lasting anywhere from one week to a full year, are awarded to outstanding projects in history of science, environmental history, and related science and technology studies fields that make use of the Library's collections. Awards range from up to \$3,000 per month for pre-doctoral fellows to \$4,200 per month for post-doctoral fellows.

The Linda Hall Library, located next to the University of Missouri-Kansas City in Kansas City, Missouri is among the world's leading independent research libraries, boasting extensive primary and secondary sources related to environmental sciences, physical sciences, earth sciences, engineering, astronomy, meteorology, and the life sciences. The Library holds more than

News from the Profession, cont.

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. Its collections also contain conference proceedings, government publications, technical reports, and over 200,000 industrial standards. Fellows at the Linda Hall Library participate in a vibrant intellectual community alongside in-house scholars and colleagues from nearby research institutions.

For more information and to apply online by **16 January 2017**, visit: <http://www.lindahall.org/fellowships>.

News from the Consortium of Social Science Associations: COSSA Washington Update, Sept. 20, 2016, vol. 35, issue 18

NSF Releases Open Government Plan 4.0
The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently released the latest iteration of its transparency plan, *Open Government Plan 4.0*. NSF's original plan, (**version 1.0**) was developed in 2010 in response to a 2009 White House directive calling for federal agencies to

“implement the principles of transparency, participation and collaboration” across their activities and functions. This newest report reflects updates that have been made to federal guidelines pertaining to open government practices. The plan covers a variety of topics, including specific NSF transparency initiatives, the use of social media for communicating with the public, *Freedom of Information Act* requests, and others.

DOD Seeks Candidates for Associate Director for Social Science Research

The Department of Defense (DOD) Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research is seeking candidates to fill the position of **Associate Director of Social Science Research**. This position includes direction of the **Minerva Research Initiative**. The Minerva Initiative was launched in 2008 as a university-based social science research program. The position will be filled through the *Intergovernmental Personnel Act* process, so applicants must be the employee of state, local, federal, or tribal government; an institution of higher education; or another eligible nonprofit, and agree to serve a set term in the position. Demonstrated experience with large program management, as well as a higher degree in the social and behavioral sciences are among the requirements.

White House SBS Team Celebrates One-Year Anniversary

On September 15, the **White House's Social and Behavioral Sciences Team (SBST)** celebrated its one-year anniversary. SBST, a group of behavioral scientists within the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), is chaired by the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). It also includes the participation of federal agencies, departments, and White House offices.

The **2016 Social and Behavioral Sciences Team Annual Report** cites the progress made by the team in implementing President Obama's **Executive Order 13707**, “Using Behavioral Science Insights to Better Serve the American People” (see Update, **September 22, 2015**). The 2016 report explains that over the last year the SBST's portfolio has grown to include more than 40 collaborations throughout the federal government. The collaborations fall under three major themes: (1) undertaking significant policy challenges (e.g., affordable health insurance, expanding economic opportunities, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions); (2) leveraging strategies to enhance the effectiveness of programs, including addressing how programs are communicated, changing the ways programs are administered, “informing the design of

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policy”; and (3) using the best available evidence along with testing its impact to determine which programs to scale up and discern what needs improving.

Project areas addressed by SBST over the last year include promoting retirement security, advancing economic opportunity, improving college access and affordability, responding to climate change,

supporting criminal justice reform, assisting job seekers, assisting families in obtaining health coverage and staying healthy, and improving government effectiveness and efficiency.

HSS Editor Search: Preliminary Proposals Due 1 March 2017

The Society’s Editor, H. Floris Cohen, will be finishing his term in June 2019. The next Editor is to be elected by the History of Science Society Council in June 2018, for a term from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2024. (The year after the new Editor is elected is designed to allow for a smooth transition.)

In accordance with HSS procedures, the search for the new Editor will be undertaken by the Committee on Publications (CoP). The Committee requests that expressions of interest in the position of Society Editor be sent to: Florence Hsia, Chair of the Committee on Publications (fchsia@wisc.edu); Bernie Lightman, Vice-President and Executive Committee Representative to the Committee on Publications (lightman@yorku.ca); or Jay Malone, HSS Executive Director (jay@hssonline.org). Information about the requirements of the position can be found below. We especially encourage any interested folks to contact Bernie Lightman, Jay Malone, or Floris Cohen (H.F.Cohen@uu.nl) to discuss particulars.

Since 2014, Floris Cohen and his team have maintained the highest standards for *Isis*, and the Descartes Centre at the University of Utrecht has provided a wonderful home for the editorial offices of the Society. We now once again seek someone with an excellent reputation as a research scholar in the history of science who is at an institution that can partner with the History of Science Society in supporting the Editorial Office. Potential applicants may consider whether a bid can be developed in collaboration with more than one home institution.

Information for potential candidates to be Society Editor and Editor of *Isis*.

1. This position has a five-year renewable term.
2. The next Society Editor will be recommended by the HSS Committee on Publications, consisting of five members appointed by the Executive Committee serving staggered terms of five years, plus the Vice President, serving *ex officio*. Discussions with potential Editors and their institutions will take place throughout the fall of 2016 and winter of 2017. Preliminary written proposals for staffing and financing of the Editorial office should be submitted to the Committee on Publications by potential Editors and their associate editors and institutions by 1 March 2017. The Committee on Publications will review preliminary proposals in April 2017 and send out queries to potential candidates during April and May 2017. Revised and complete proposals need to be submitted by 1 October 2017. **The Committee on Publications will interview candidates during the 9–12 November 2017 HSS meeting in Toronto. A subcommittee of the Committee on Publications will make site visits to finalists’ institutions in**

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the winter/spring of 2017–2018. The HSS Council will evaluate the recommendation and make its final decision in order to have the HSS Executive Committee announce the selection of the new Society and *Isis* Editor in the July 2018 *HSS Newsletter*.

3. It is anticipated that *Isis* during the term of the next Editor will be published for the Society by the University of Chicago Press, to which the journal was moved in the spring of 1991. A Memorandum of Agreement covers the relations of the History of Science Society and the University of Chicago Press with regard to the publication of *Isis*. This contract will be subject to review during the term of the new Editor.
4. The Society Editor is an Officer of the History of Science Society, and, as such, serves as an *ex officio* non-voting member of the Executive Committee and of Council. As an Officer, the Society Editor is expected to attend Council meetings and Committee on Publications meetings held at the annual meeting and also Executive Committee meetings which, in recent years, have occurred twice a year, once before the annual meeting of the Society and a second time, approximately 6 months after the annual meeting. The Executive Committee also acts *ad interim* during the course of the year, proposes the budget, etc. The Society Editor serves as the Editor of *Isis* and also oversees *Osiris*, the annual bibliography, as well as any other publications produced by the Society.
5. As Editor of *Isis*, the Society Editor is expected to recommend *Isis* Advisory Editors to three-year terms (with possible renewal), the numbers and expertise of such editors to be determined by the Editor and ratified by CoP. There will be Advisory Editors in office who continue from Floris Cohen's term as Editor into the next term.
6. The History of Science Society expects to be able to support the editing of *Isis* by providing funding for the salaries of a Managing Editor, a Manuscript Editor, for office supplies, and for part of the course release for the Book Review Editor. The Editor's institution, in turn, is expected to support the *Isis* editorial office to a significant degree. Candidates will need to submit a tentative budget and can obtain the current budget from Jay Malone (jay@hssonline.org).



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