

# Newsletter

of the History of Science Society

Vol. 48, No. 3  
July 2019

## Table of Contents



Welcome to Utrecht!

### The city

Utrecht is the fourth-largest city of the Netherlands, located exactly in the middle of the country. During the late Middle Ages, Utrecht was the largest city of the Netherlands, ruled by a powerful bishop. This explains why the city center, including the characteristic canals, is older than the other historical Dutch cities such as Amsterdam, Haarlem, Leiden, Delft and Gouda, all of which date mostly from the 17th century.

Today, Utrecht is a fast-growing city, with a relatively young and highly educated populace: about 20% of residents are students. Utrecht hosts a large university,

an academic medical center, several other institutes for higher education, as well as several large banks and consultancy firms. For that reason, it is a transportation hub, as reflected in the recently rebuilt Central Station, which most delegates will experience.

### The local HPS community

The intellectual hub of HPS in Utrecht is the **Descartes Centre for the History and Philosophy of the Sciences and the Humanities** (DC). The DC is a virtual center, uniting all Utrecht researchers in the field,

The Historic Dom Tower

Welcome to Utrecht!	1
Introducing the <i>Newsletter's</i> New Editor	4
State Humanities and the History of Science	6
Member News	7
HSS News	15
News from the Profession	18

Continued on Page 2

## Welcome to Utrecht, cont.

and it aims to be the university's think tank for reflection on science and its societal role.

The DC also unites the staff of the **Utrecht HPS research master's program**, which admits about 25 students every year. Other important history of science hubs in the Netherlands are the Vossius Center for the History of Humanities and Sciences at the University of Amsterdam, the Stevin Centre for History of Science and Humanities at the Free University of Amsterdam, the Huygens Institute for the History of the Netherlands in Amsterdam, the Rijksmuseum Boerhaave in Leiden, and the Teylers Museum in Haarlem.

For the past five years, ending this summer, the Descartes Centre has hosted the History of Science Society's editorial office, H. Floris Cohen, Editor. He was assisted by book review editors Ad Maas (of the Rijksmuseum Boerhaave) and Huib Zuidervaart (from the Huygens Institute), as well as by students from the HPS master's program. (Readers are encouraged to visit the HPS graduate students' blog *Shells And Pebbles - Interesting finds on the shores of the history of science.*)

### Discussing Descartes

Historians of early modern science may remember that teaching Cartesian ideas was banned in Utrecht in 1642, thanks to Descartes' nemesis Voetius, professor at Utrecht University.

Fortunately, however, participants at the HSS Annual Meeting do not need to worry about this ban any more; it was officially lifted during a festive ceremony in 2005.

### Conference venue

The HSS conference will take place in the very heart of the city. The venue is not a single building, but rather a row of historic houses along the picturesque Drift Canal, which now all belong to the Faculty of Humanities. A garden at the back connects these houses to each other and to the university library, which is located in a former palace of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, the French emperor's brother who was king of the Netherlands from 1806-1810.

There are lots of restaurants, coffee bars and cafés within a few blocks, including the library cafeteria Lodewijk (the Dutch version of Louis). Since a fifth of the population are students, prices tend to be reasonable.

### Plenary venues

The opening ceremony will be in the Janskerk (St John's church), the oldest parts of which date from the 11th century, although several extensions were added later. The Janskerk is just a few minutes walk from the main conference area.

The Prize Ceremony & Distinguished Lecture by Anke te Heesen will be in the Domkerk, the

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### Moving?

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

### Editorial Policies, Advertising and Submissions

The *History of Science Society Newsletter* is published in January, April, July, and October, and sent to all individual members of the Society.

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](mailto: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](mailto:info@hssonline.org).

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*Continued on Page 3*

## Welcome to Utrecht, cont.

former cathedral—and since 1581, a Protestant church—dates back to the 13th century and about a 5-minute walk from the conference center. Its tower, the 112 meter high Domtoren, is the main landmark of Utrecht. The tower is no longer connected to the church, as the connecting nave collapsed during a storm in 1674.

The Elizabeth Paris Public Engagement Lecture by Jeroen van Dongen will be in the Railway Museum, located in a 19th-century railway station at the edge of the city center, about a 15-minute walk from the Drift buildings.

### Excursions

We have organized several history of science-themed excursions for HSS attendees, with tours by specialists:

- City walks: a visit to the historic **Sonnenborgh Observatory** and/or the peaceful **Botanical Gardens**.
- Huygens' house **Hofwijck** in Voorburg and **Rijksmuseum Boerhaave** in Leiden. Boerhaave is the national museum for the history of science and medicine, with a rich collection that includes instruments of Huygens and Leeuwenhoek. The museum just won the European Museum of the Year Award 2019.

All excursions will take place on **Tuesday, 23 July 2019**. Reserve your spot now, as space is limited. See <https://hss2019.hssonline.org/en/utrecht#excursions>

### Traffic & Safety

The center of Utrecht is very safe. There may be pickpockets, like in any busy place, but it is no problem to walk around alone at any time of day or night.

The main safety hazard is also one of Utrecht's most celebrated features: its bike culture. The conference website can tell you how to get from A to B, but it does not inform you about the laws of the Utrecht traffic jungle. So here they are:

1. In all of Utrecht, bikes are king of the road.
2. It takes a large bus or truck to intimidate a bike. Anything & anyone else is expected to give way. This even includes HSS participants.
3. Bikes don't follow rules. Mundane things such as traffic lights, one-way streets or pedestrian zones are regarded as optional guidelines.
4. Bike parking is allowed everywhere, even where it is not (cf. rule 3). The only exception is the Drift canal, where parked bikes will be actively removed by the officials.

5. Stealing bikes is not allowed, but bike thieves also seem to adhere to rule 3. It is not unusual to have a bike lock that is more expensive than your bike (this also says something about the quality of most bikes).

Incidentally, the largest bike parking garage in the world is being built near the station, with room for 12,500 bikes. Another one, with room for 4,200 bikes, is located on the other side of the station. It is not clear whether or not this will be enough space.

### Local Arrangements Committee

The local hosts of the 2019 Annual Meeting are:

Bert Theunissen  
David Baneke  
Ariane den Daas  
Odette Jansen  
Annemarijn Douwes

They are supported by a group of HPS students and graduates.

## Introducing the *Newsletter's* New Editor

*The first issue of the HSS Newsletter dates back to February 1972, when Richard Nixon was president of the US. Conceived in December 1971 at the HSS annual meeting (when HSS was still meeting with the American Historical Association), the Newsletter and its principal editorial responsibility fell to then-HSS Secretary, Roger Stuewer, who was assisted by faculty and graduate student volunteers. Few elements of the Newsletter have changed over the past 47 years: it continues to be a quarterly and we continue to title it Newsletter. A long line of Society Secretaries edited each issue—save for a time when Arnold Thackray, as Society Editor, served also as Newsletter Editor (the Society Editor has authority over all HSS publications, including the Newsletter)—but, for the most part, Society Editors were content to let the Secretaries handle the task. That changed when I was hired in 1998 as the HSS's first Executive Director and the Newsletter fell under my domain. But that time is coming to an end.*

*The Society would like for me to devote more effort to development. And in looking for ways to free up my time we decided to issue a call for volunteers to serve as Editor of the Newsletter, with a promise that the person would have a say in re-titling the Newsletter. We were most fortunate that Neeraja Sankaran answered the appeal. She made a compelling case as to why she would like to serve and our new Editors (Alix Hui and Matt Lavine) gave their approval.*

*Neeraja (rhymes a bit with Ninja) has been a faithful HSS member since her graduate student days at Yale, where she earned a PhD in 2006. Anyone who has had a chance to speak with Neeraja has experienced the delight of her enthusiasm and her quick wit (she once saved scores of historian of science from injury during the almost-infamous Manchester escalator incident—“almost” because she helped avert a slow-motion pile up). I asked Neeraja to introduce herself to HSS members.*

*Jay Malone*

Of all the organizations where I hold membership, HSS holds a special place in my affections. As Jay mentioned in his very kind introduction, I have been a member since my graduate school days. I delivered my first formal presentation in the discipline at the 2004 meeting in Austin and passed my important rite of passage as a scholar, my PhD defense, at the 2006 annual meeting in Vancouver. Ever since, more than any university or institution where I have worked, it is HSS that has been my intellectual home. So when I saw the announcement for the *Newsletter* Editor posted on the website, I jumped at the chance.

One of the main advantages that I see coming with this position is the ability to keep in touch with “my” people. As an independent scholar based (mostly) in Bangalore, India for the past four years or so, and before that an itinerant academic with positions in South Korea and

Cairo, I have been fairly isolated from this community for more than a decade. Be it in person at the annual meetings or virtually via the website, HSS has been the lifeline that has kept me tethered to history of science and its practitioners. Since 2016 I have served on its Committee on Membership and as this position is coming to an end next year, I thought that taking on the editorship of the *Newsletter* would give me some continuity.

Ours is still a relatively small society, especially in comparison to many other professional associations, but I’m guessing it’s fair to say that not everyone knows each other. So here are some factoids about me. People who know me will tell you I’m an enthusiastic, often goofy person with a foghorn voice, left-leaning if chaotic politics, and a talent for finding good (and often unusual) restaurants at the different conference venues. (I am also an accomplished and versatile cook but only those HSS members who lived in or visited New Haven between 1998-2003 can attest to that.) As to what makes me tick as a historian of



## Introducing the *Newsletter's* New Editor, cont.

science, I came into the field having first studied and worked as both a microbiologist and science writer. I have also been book reviews editor for *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* (*Studies C* for short, and if there ever was a journal that needed a short title, this had to be one) from 2013-2018. This background played a major role in shaping me into an unapologetic “internalist” as a historian, interested in the development of scientific ideas. My dissertation focused on the work of one scientist—the Australian biologist Frank Macfarlane Burnet—on a specific topic, his work, in the earliest years of his research careers on the bacteriophages, viruses that infect bacteria rather than plants or animals. My nearly completed book, *A Tale of Two Viruses* to be published by the University of Pittsburgh Press (by the time this article is printed, it will be in review) is not an expansion of that project. Rather the dissertation is condensed into a single chapter (the fourth) of what is a comparative history of the research trajectories of the aforementioned bacteriophages and chicken tumor viruses. Enough said on that matter for now. When the book is finally published, I'll be sure, as a good HSS member, to trumpet the news in the member news section of this *Newsletter*.

If you are wondering how the *Newsletter* might change now that I am on board, let me assure you that for the most part it will not. I am a firm

believer in not unnecessarily fixing things that aren't broken in the first place. The *Newsletter* will continue to fulfill the functions it always has, that is, keep the members in touch with happenings in the field and with each others' doings. That said, there are a couple of changes in the offing. First is the title. While Shakespeare may have been right in asking what there was in a name, the higher-ups at HSS have felt for some time that it would be nice to have a real title rather than a descriptor of what we are. Here are few ideas being tossed around but I'd welcome more suggestions before we approach the Committee on Publications and then the HSS Council for approval. One thought was to maintain our ongoing theme and pick another god from Egyptian mythology, in which case I thought that *Thoth*, the ibis-headed inventor of script and hieroglyphics might be a good choice. But I for one feel that we may have the Egyptologists protest that we have appropriated too many of their icons. *pHSSt* was another idea since it both incorporates our acronym and gives the impression that we have something to tell to one another. I confess to a weakness for word-play and also thought of *ScHistoria*. As I said please chip in with suggestions.

Second, a feature that we hope to establish in the near future was actually set into motion long before my position was created and that is a panel of advisory editors. This idea was first launched

back in 2008 but floundered for a variety of reasons. Now that HSS and the *Newsletter* are firmly established in cyberspace and better connected overall, we thought it would be useful to revive the idea. We believe that such a panel will help us improve the *Newsletter* in many ways, most of all by helping to widen our coverage. Duties are by no means set in stone but we imagine that members of the panel would suggest ideas for articles, people to interview, and point us toward areas and again, people, that/who may have been neglected. Over the next few months we will be sending out invitations to various folks, with a fuller description of what we hope to have them do. But meanwhile if anyone would like to volunteer to serve in this capacity, we'd love to hear from you. E-mail me at [sankanet@gmail.com](mailto:sankanet@gmail.com) and let me know if you are interested.

Finally, I think I should probably explain the photograph although I imagine folks who already know me, will think it appropriately goofy (that word again). That's a snapshot of me with Oloch, the book-cart dressed up as a woolly mammoth and named for the Othmer Library of Chemical History of the Science History Institute, where he resides. He caught my fancy this past March when I was visiting there as part of my fellowship from the Consortium for History of Science, Technology & Medicine, and I couldn't resist the photo op.

## State Humanities and the History of Science

Girls Inc. of Johnson County, Indiana recently named Mary Ellen Lennon, assistant professor of history at Marian University in Indianapolis, Indiana as their “Strong, Smart and Bold Woman of the Year.” The award recognizes Dr. Lennon’s work on a Quantum Leap-funded project to celebrate the history of women in science.

Quantum Leap was an initiative instituted by the Indiana Humanities Council in order to encourage Hoosiers to explore and celebrate the spirit of possibility and problem-solving by bridging the humanities and STEM fields. The basic idea was to train a humanities lens on various local and global STEM issues in discussions around topics as diverse as the ethics surrounding new technologies, how and why people accept and embrace change (or fail to do so) and how we distinguish between fact and myth or opinion. To this end the initiative has funded a variety of projects within the state and as a good Hoosier, our own Jay Malone served as a reviewer to decide which projects were worthy of funding by the program. Girls Inc. Johnson County, the local chapter of a national nonprofit youth organization dedicated to helping young girls believe in and realize their potential through innovative programs to help them confront societal expectations and stereotypes, received a Quantum Leap award in 2017.

Strong, smart and bold are certainly fitting adjectives for Lennon who directed the project.

She took young women on field trips to learn about and be inspired by historic women in science, such as Rachel Carson and Wangari Maathai of Kenya, who suffered imprisonment in her efforts to lead a movement of women to plant 50 million trees. Lennon paints a vivid picture of taking girls to do field research at the Blossom Hollow Nature Preserve in Trafalgar, Indiana. “Imagine,” she writes, “Yellow buses perched on the edge of the nature preserve. Armed with waterproof notebooks and rain ponchos, groups of girls, divided by age, followed Dr. Alice Heikens [a biology professor at Franklin College in Indiana] into the woods to find out what they could about the natural world.... The girls were introduced to a lineage of female naturalists and scientists who walked into the woods before them. They studied women throughout history who challenged their communities’ formal discrimination of women, who demonstrated, despite prejudice, the importance of their voices, their scientific knowledge and their imaginations.”

Lennon’s own story in education is no less inspiring. A native of Queens, New York, she was the first member of her family to graduate from college, the State University of New York at Binghamton. She won a Jacob Javits National Fellowship to attend Harvard University and went on to earn a PhD in American Studies, specializing in issues of race, class and culture in

twentieth century United States history. Committed to the ideals of equity in education, she first taught at an experimental public high school in New York City whose mission was to serve students at risk of not completing postsecondary education due to their economic or family situations, and later, as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso in West Africa.

It is entirely appropriate that she should be recognized for her efforts to wed the sciences and the humanities. Congratulations to Dr. Lennon.

[We are grateful to George Hanlin, Director of Grants of the Indiana Humanities Council, and to Dr. Lennon for allowing us to quote from their articles.]



# Member News

**Rachel Ankeny** (University of Adelaide) was **awarded the University of Adelaide Commendation for the Enhancement and Innovation of Student Learning** for her implementation of effective higher degree by research (HDR) Supervisory Practices, particularly for her use of innovative cohort supervision techniques.

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**Leah Aronowsky** (University of Illinois) won the 2019 Rachel Carson Prize awarded by the American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) for the best dissertation in environmental history. She received a PhD in history of science from Harvard University in 2018 and is currently a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

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**Gordon Barrett** (University of Oxford) published **“Between Sovereignty and Legitimacy: China and UNESCO, 1946–1953”** in *Modern Asian Studies First View* online (2019): 1-27.

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## In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of **Neale Wheeler Watson**. A remembrance of Neale will appear in a future issue of the *Newsletter*.

**Paola Bertucci** (Yale University) received the 2019 Louis Gottschalk Prize for best book on any eighteenth-century topic from the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies for her book *Artisanal Enlightenment: Science and the Mechanical Arts in Old Regime France* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017).



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**Roland Boucher** presented his findings on the Stonehenge long foot at the AAAS Western Region Conference in Ashland, Oregon.

A recent article in the publication, *The British Journal for the History of Mathematics*, by Anne Teather, Andrew Chamberlain, and Mike Parker established a relative accurately value of ancient standards based on the Chalk Drums of Fulton. We know the Sumerians made two attempts to create a Geodetic foot for the purpose of surveying [a Geodetic foot is a measurement derived from natural objects for the purposes of surveying]. Was there an unnoticed third that would explain the Stonehenge long foot?

The Ancient Sumerians of Lagash recognized that the length of 360 of their Steps (yards) was very nearly 1/360 of a degree on the polar circumference of the earth. They declared a new “distance” foot which was 1/1000 the length of



**Just earned your PhD in the history of science? Congratulations! Here’s a free e-membership to HSS.**

Leaving the student world can present challenges.

The HSS would like to recognize your signal achievement by providing a **free electronic membership (one year)** to those who graduated in 2018 or in 2019.

Please go to <https://subfill.uchicago.edu/JournalPUBS/HSSpromotion.aspx> for details.

## Member News, cont.

360 new Steps. The “old” step was based on the length on a pendulum which beat 240 times in 240 seconds, 1/360 day, or one Sumerian Gesh. Its length derived from a simple pendulum was 993.7 mm. The new pendulum would be much shorter — it would beat 360 times in 1/360 part of a day (240 seconds or one Sumerian Gesh). The new step would be double its length. A Cable of 360 of these new Steps was equal to 1000 Geodetic Feet and was intended to be 1/360 of a degree on the polar circumference of the earth. The length of this first Geodetic cable was 317.557 meters, about 3% longer than the actual value of 307.99 meters when measured at the latitude of Lagash. This First Geodetic foot seems to have been adopted in later cultures both in the length of the Market Foot of the Chinese Zhou Dynasty, at 318 mm<sup>13</sup> and in the length of the Steinbrecherfuss of Bern, Austria at 317.15mm as described by A. E. Berriman.

Next, a second Geodetic foot of Lagash was established using a Pendulum which beat 366 times rather than 360 times in 1/360 part of a day. The length of 1000 of these new feet was 307.264 meters a little less than 0.25% shorter than the true value. Evidence of this Foot can be found in Sumeria, Egypt, and in the Minoan ruins on the island of Crete.

We have before us two attempts to create a true Geodetic standard measurement over 5000 years

before the French would attempt to duplicate this feat. The first almost 3% too long and the second a little less than 0.25% short.

### *Stonehenge Long-foot Found*

A new search begun on 19 May 2019, found that an earlier version did exist in Sumeria establishing standard Mina weights of about 522 grams. Proof of its existence can be found in Dr. Powell’s weights #13 and #14. This earlier version used the same length step as the first successful version, but used 366 steps to establish 1000 feet. The length of this earlier cable was 322.9 meters, almost 5% longer than 1/360 degree on the polar circumference of the Earth. While not succeeding in its objective in Sumeria, it nevertheless seems to have become known to the builders of Stonehenge.

The true value of the Stonehenge Long-foot may not be precisely the 322.9 mm of this early Geodetic foot, or precisely the 321.9 mm value established by the chalk drums, but the search for the ancient roots and length of the Long-foot of the Stonehenge may, at long last, be within our grasp.

**See the Stonehenge table (in PDF form) here.**

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## 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** (regularly \$199). 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.

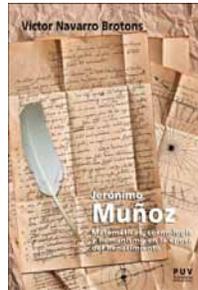
In addition to past issues of *Isis* and *Osiris*, members may find the following journals of particular interest:

- *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. **Sign up here.**

# Member News, cont.

**Victor Navarro Brotons**  
**Jerónimo Muñoz** (University of Valencia) published *Matemáticas, Cosmología y humanismo en la época del Renacimiento* (Valencia: PUV Universitat of València, 2019).



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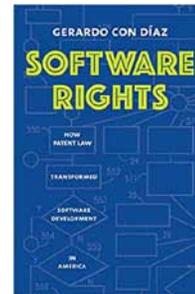
**Toni V. Carey** (independent scholar) published “**Adam Smith's Newtonian Ideals**” in *Adam Smith Review* 11 (2019): 297-314.

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**Jonathan Coopersmith** (Texas A&M University) provided historical and personal information for the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. In April-May 1986, Coopersmith was at Moscow State University as an IREX exchangee. Read the **Live Science article** and the **KBTX article**. Coopersmith, a historian of technology, also spent part of spring 2019 at the School for the Future of Innovation in Society at Arizona State University and fall 2018 at King's College London as a visiting professor.

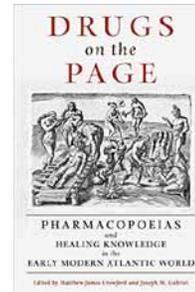
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**Gerardo Con Diaz** (University of California, Davis) published *Software Rights: How Patent Law Transformed Software Development in America* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019). It will be released in October. **It is available for pre-order here.**



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**Matthew James Crawford** (Kent State University) and Joseph M. Gabriel edited *Drugs on the Page: Pharmacopoeias and Healing Knowledge in the Early Modern Atlantic World* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2019).



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**Matthew Daniel Eddy** (Durham University) was **promoted to professor and Chair of the History and Philosophy of Science at Durham University**. He also was **awarded a Huntington Library Fellowship** for a project that investigates the art and science of Enlightenment student notebooks.

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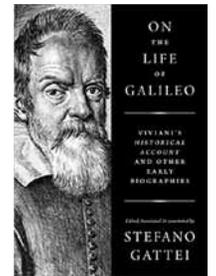
**Anne Fausto-Sterling** (Brown University) published “**Gender/Sex, Sexual Orientation, and Identity Are in the Body: How Did They Get There?**” in *The Journal of Sex Research* 56, no. 4-5 (2019): 529-555.

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**Donald Forsdyke** (Queen’s University) contributed to the *Scandinavian Journal of Immunology* Discussion Forum with “**On certain two-signal perspectives of lymphocyte activation and inactivation, thymic G-quadruplexes, and the role of aggregation in self/not-self discrimination**” (June 2019).

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**Stefano Gattei** published *On the Life of Galileo: Vincenzo Viviani's Historical Account and Other Early Biographies* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019). It will be released in July 2019.



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**Jean-François Gauvin** (Université Laval) is now the Titulaire de la Chaire de leadership en enseignement en muséologie et mise en public. Since March 2018, he was hired as an assistant professor in the Département des sciences historiques at Université Laval in Québec City. At the same time, he was awarded a Chair in museum studies in order to restart the Diplôme

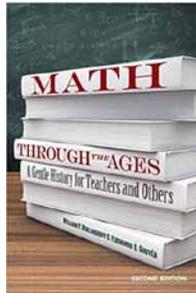
# Member News, cont.

d'études supérieures et spécialisées en muséologie. **You can follow the activities of the Chair at this website (in French).**

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**Fernando Q. Gouvêa** (Colby College) and William P. Berlinghoff published a Dover edition of *Math through the Ages: A Gentle History for Teachers and Others* (Mineola: Dover Publications, 2019). This book has always existed in two versions. The expanded version, with questions and project suggestions, is now published by AMS under its "MAA Press" imprint. The non-expanded version, which used to be published by Oxton House, is now a Dover book. It contains the same text as the textbook version, but not any of the questions and project suggestions.

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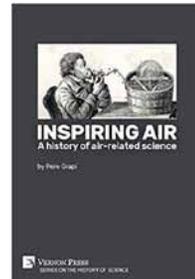


**Christopher M. Graney** (Jefferson Community and Technical College, Louisville Kentucky) published "**How to Make the Earth Orbit the Sun in 1614**" in *Journal for the History of Astronomy* 50, no. 1 (February 2019): 16-30 and "**The Starry Universe of Johannes Kepler**" in *Journal for the History of Astronomy* 50, no. 2 (May 2019): 155-173.

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**Pere Grapí** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) published *Inspiring Air: A history of air-related science* (Malaga: Vernon Press, 2019).

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**Bert Hansen** (Baruch College of CUNY), professor emeritus of history, presented his research on medicine in comic art as an invited speaker for the opening plenary at the annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine in Columbus, Ohio, on 26 April 2019, "Medicine in Popular Graphics from Civil-War Era Political Cartoons to Mid-Twentieth-Century Comic Books."

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**Klaus Hentschel** (University of Stuttgart) would like to announce that the Stuttgart-based "Database of Scientific Illustrators 1450-1950" (DSI) has moved to a new server. Please bookmark the new URL: [dsi.hi.uni-stuttgart.de/](http://dsi.hi.uni-stuttgart.de/). (All old URLs are automatically forwarded, though.)

The database now lists more than 12,500 draughtsmen & -women, woodcutters, engravers, lithographers, photographers and model-makers active between 1450 and 1950 in more than 100 countries for clients in geographic exploration, natural history, zoology, botany and

geology and mineralogy, anatomy, dermatology, anthropology, ethnology, technology and other fields. Circa 10% of our entries are female illustrators.

**A short flyer with more information is freely obtainable here.**

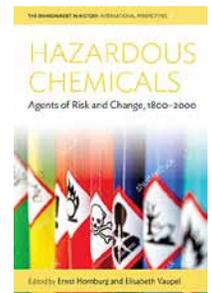
Regional distribution of birth and death places as well as of regions of activity can also be studied at **newly created interactively zoomable and temporized maps available here.**

**A BEACON file which coordinates our ID numbers with viaf numbers for all entries for which such viaf numbers exist (less than 50% of our entries!) is also available here.**

DSI is freely available and searchable for 20 different search fields. If you happen to miss a name in DSI or if you miss important information, you can provide us with it in a special feedback page—we will check your data and put it online afterwards to improve the database.

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**Ernst Homburg** (Maastricht University) and Elisabeth Vaupel edited *Hazardous Chemicals: Agents of Risk and Change, 1800-2000* (New York: Berghahn, 2019). It will be released in August.

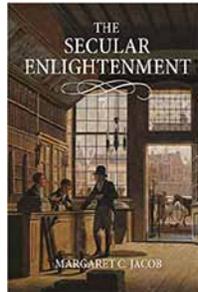


# Member News, cont.

Berghahn Books is offering a 50% discount with the code HOM196 valid until 31 October 2019 for the purchase of this book online.

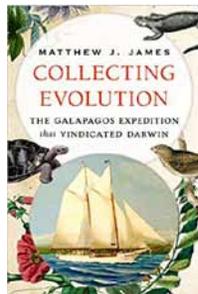
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**Margaret Jacob** (UCLA) published *The Secular Enlightenment* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019).



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**Matthew J. James** (Sonoma State University) has entered into the faculty early retirement program after 34 years of teaching, with the last 15 years being department chair. The program allows faculty to teach for up to five years before fully retiring, so starting with Fall 2019 he will teach full time in the Fall semesters and then be off in the Spring and Summer. A strong motivator for his decision was to have time to pursue making an hour-long documentary based on his book, *Collecting Evolution: The Galapagos Expedition that Vindicated Darwin* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017).



He was also featured in a podcast hosted by historian Michael Robinson called **Time to Eat**

**the Dogs**, and the topic of the episode was his book.

Furthermore, he appeared in a full-length documentary about Smithsonian Institution field collectors Edward William Nelson (1855-1934) and Edward Alphonso Goldman (1873-1946) who undertook a natural history collecting in Baja California, Mexico, starting in 1905. In the documentary, he addressed topics of natural history collecting expeditions and the enduring legacy of specimens in natural history museums. The 2019 documentary is called *The Devil's Road: A Baja Adventure*, made by Broken Wagon Films.

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**Gwen Kay** (SUNY Oswego) won re-election and will serve as President of SUNY University Faculty Senate, and member of SUNY Board of Trustees, for two years.

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**Lauren Kassell** (University of Cambridge) would like to announce that in May 2019, the Casebook Project officially launched their digital edition of the casebooks of Simon Forman and Richard Napier, complete with extensive introductory material, their dataset, and images of the manuscripts: Lauren Kassell, Michael Hawkins, Robert Ralley, John Young, Joanne Edge, Janet Yvonne Martin-Portugues and Natalie Kaoukji (eds.), *The Casebooks of Simon*

*Forman and Richard Napier, 1596–1634: a digital edition*, [casebooks.lib.cam.ac.uk](http://casebooks.lib.cam.ac.uk).

They also released 500 fully-transcribed cases in modernized English: Natalie Kaoukji and Lauren Kassell, “Selected cases in full—from Simon Forman’s and Richard Napier’s medical records,” [casebooks.lib.cam.ac.uk](http://casebooks.lib.cam.ac.uk), [casebooks.wordpress.com](http://casebooks.wordpress.com).

May 2019 also saw the release of **Astrologaster**, a computer game inspired by Simon Forman's casebooks. The Casebooks Project acted as historical consultants for the game.

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**John Krige** (Georgia Institute of Technology) won the **Francis Bacon Award for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology**. The Francis Bacon Award is bestowed on an outstanding scholar whose work continues to have a substantial impact in the history of science, the history of technology, or historically-engaged philosophy of science. The winner of the Bacon Award is invited to spend one term (10 weeks) as a Visiting Professor at Caltech to teach and lead a biennial conference that brings together the best younger and established scholars in the area of the Bacon Visiting Professor’s specific interests.

In 2018, Krige won the **Grand Prize of the Doreen and Jim McElvany Nonproliferation**

# Member News, cont.

**Challenge** for his co-authored paper “US technological collaboration for nonproliferation: Key evidence from the Cold War” with Jayita Sarkar (Boston University).

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**Adrienne Mayor** (Stanford University) published “**Tyrants and Robots**” in *History Today*, November 2018. She also published “**Robots Guarded Buddha’s Relics in a Legend from India**” in *The Conversation*, 13 March 2019. In addition, she published “**Talos, the Bronze Robot of Greek Myth and His Amazing Afterlife**” in *Technica Curiosa*, 23 March 2019. She co-authored “Interest in Geological and Palaeontological Curiosities by Southern African Non-Western Societies: A Review and Perspectives for Future Study” with Helm, Benoit et al. in *Proceedings of the Geologists’ Association*, 2018. Lastly, she published “**The First Sex Robot**” in *Gizmodo*, 9 December 2018.

The Chinese translation of her book *Gods and Robots: Myths, Machines, and Ancient Dreams of Technology* came out in Taiwan and she recorded the *Gods and Robots* audiobook.

She was invited to talk about *Gods and Robots* and artificial life in antiquity at NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Mountain View, CA; the Chicago Humanities Festival; Town Hall Seattle; Science on Tap Portland; Berggruen

Institute in Los Angeles; and San Francisco Mechanics Institute, among other venues. Podcasts include Sean Carroll’s Mindscape; a16z Andreessen Horowitz; and Historically Thinking.

.....

**Carla J. Mulford** (Pennsylvania State University) published “**Prevent[ing]... restless Spirits from exciting Disturbances’: Benjamin Franklin and the Wyoming Valley**” in *Pennsylvania History* 86, no. 1 (Winter 2019) 1-37.

She also spoke in Talking in the Library, an audio platform. **Listen to the podcast episode on Franklin and Immigration here.**

She continues to work toward the completion of her monograph, *Benjamin Franklin’s Electrical Diplomacy*.

.....

**Nancy Nersessian** (Harvard University and Georgia Institute of Technology) won the Doctorem Honoris Causa from National and Kapodistrian University of Athens for pioneering research in history, philosophy, and psychology of science.

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## Plan Ahead Future HSS Meetings



**2019**  
**Utrecht, The Netherlands:**  
23 July (Tues) to 27 July (Sat)



**2020**  
**New Orleans, LA:**  
7-11 October  
Co-located meeting with SHOT

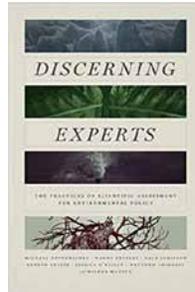


**2021**  
**Mérida, Mexico:**  
**November** (dates to be determined)  
Co-located meeting with SHOT

# Member News, cont.

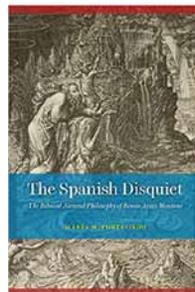
**Naomi Oreskes** (Harvard University) was elected to the **American Philosophical Society class of 2019** members.

She, Michael Oppenheimer, et al., published *Discerning Experts: The Practices of Scientific Assessment for Environmental Policy* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019).



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**Maria M. Portuondo** (Johns Hopkins University) published *The Spanish Disquiet. The Biblical Natural Philosophy of Benito Arias Montano* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019).

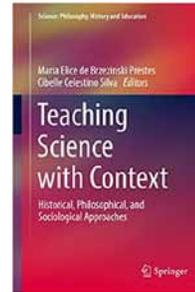


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**Maria Elice de Brzezinski Prestes** (University of São Paulo) and Lilian Al-Chueyr Pereira published “**As diferentes concepções de Francesco Redi (1628-1698) sobre a geração animal e tradução de excertos de Experiências sobre a geração de insetos**” in *Intelligere* 6, (December 2018): 17-52. She and Natália Abdalla Martins published “**A contribuição de George Newport (1803-1854) para a elucidação do papel dos componentes do sêmen masculino na reprodução animal**” in

*Khronos, Revista de História da Ciência* 5 (2018): 58-72.

She, Filipe Faria Berçot, and Eduardo Cortez published “**Abraham Trembley (1710–1784) and the Creature that defies Classification: Nature of Science and Inquiry through a Historical Narrative**” in *Teaching Science with Context: Historical, Philosophical, and Sociological Approaches*, edited by Maria Elice de Brzezinski Prestes and Cibelle Celestino Silva, 161-190 (Dordrecht: Springer, 2018).



.....

**Jamil Ragep** (McGill University) and Sajjad Nikfahm-Khubravan published “**The Mercury Models of Ibn al-Šāṭir and Copernicus**” in *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy* 29 (2019): 1-59.

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**Joy Lisi Rankin** published several articles: “**Tech-Bro Culture Was Written in the Code: How Computing Pioneers at Dartmouth in the 1960s Gave Rise to the Macho Tech Culture We See Today.**” *Slate*. November 1, 2018.

“**How Minnesota Teachers Invented a Proto-Internet More Centered on Community Than Commerce: A National Conversation**

**hosted by the Smithsonian and Arizona State University.**” What It Means to Be American. February 21, 2019.

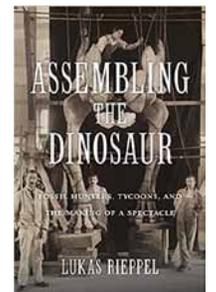
“**Remembering the Women of the Mathematical Tables Project.**” *The New Inquiry*. March 14, 2019.

She has also appeared on several podcasts speaking about her book, *A People’s History of Computing in the United States* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2018): **New Books Network**, **Lady Science**, and **This is Not a Pipe**.

Google also invited her to speak about her research on gender and technology as the keynote for their 2018 Tech Days, and the **talk with audience Q&A is available here**.

.....

**Lukas Rieppel** (Brown University) published *Assembling the Dinosaur: Fossil Hunters, Tycoons, and the Making of a Spectacle* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2019).



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**Whitney Barlow Robles** (Harvard University) will join Dartmouth College’s Society of Fellows this fall as a Junior Fellow and Lecturer.

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# Member News, cont.

**Helga Satzinger** (University College London) published “**White Adam and Black Eve: A 1770 painting at the Old Pharmacy, Calw, Southern Germany, and the scientific discourse of the time on heredity, skin colour, variation and race**” in *Politika* (March 2019).

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**Anja Sattelmacher** won the **dissertation prize of the GWMT** (German Society for the History of Science, Medicine and Technology) for 2018.

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**Robin Scheffler** (MIT) published *A Contagious Cause: The American Hunt for Cancer Viruses and the Rise of Molecular Medicine* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019).



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**Kathleen Sheppard** (Missouri S&T) won the **2019 Woman of the Year** award, given annually to a female all-time tenured or tenure-track faculty member in recognition of her efforts to improve the campus environment for women and minorities, dedicated to student education and committed to diversity.

.....

**Mark Solovey** (University of Toronto) was granted tenure and promotion to associate

professor. His new status officially begins 1 July 2019.

He also published “**The Impossible Dream: Scientism as Strategy against Distrust of Social Science at the U.S. National Science Foundation, 1945-1980**” in the *International Journal for History, Culture and Modernity* 7. The article is available open access.

.....

**Laura Stark** (Vanderbilt University) was awarded the 2019 Outstanding Publication Prize for “**Contracting Health: Procurement Contracts, Total Institutions, and Problem of Virtuous Suffering in Post-War Human Experiment**” in *Social History of Medicine* 31, no. 4 (2018): 818–46. The prize was given by the American Sociological Association’s section on Medical Sociology.

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**Roger H. Stuewer** (University of Minnesota) published *The Age of Innocence: Nuclear Physics between the First and Second World Wars* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2018).



.....

**James Strick** (Franklin and Marshall College) was interviewed in a 20-minute segment on

**NPR’s “Science Friday”** which aired on 5 July 2019. The topic is his work on the history of ideas and experiments about spontaneous generation and their relationship to the germ theory of disease.

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**Dominik Wujastyk** (University of Alberta) published “The Elephant’s Footprint” in *Studia Orientalia Electronica* 6 (2018): 56-61. He co-edits the journal *History of Science in South Asia*, which has published new issues in 2018 and 2019 (rolling publication). **View them here.** Additionally, 2019-2020 is going to be a strong year, with six promising articles currently in the peer-review queue.

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**Michiko Yajima** published “**A History of Observations and Investigations of Volcanic Eruptions and Landslides on Izu-Oshima Island, near Tokyo, and A Brief Account of Efforts by Staff of the Newly established Geopark, to Educate the Public about their Potential Dangers**” in the JAHIGEO Newsletter, no. 21 (May, 2019): 1-5.

.....

**Anya Zilberstein** (Concordia University, Montreal) recently launched a new series in early modern, long view, and global environmental history, co-edited with Molly Warsh: “**New/Old Natures: Histories of the Environment.**”

## HSS News

### HSS Election Results

After a great voter turnout and close races, we are pleased to announce that the following members were elected to HSS offices. We are grateful for all of those who consented to put their names forward and for our Nominating Committee and their hard work.

#### *Vice President*

Karen Rader

#### *Council Delegate*

Ahmed Ragab

#### *Nominating Committee*

Hannah Marcus

Marie Thébaud-Sorger

#### *Council*

Helen Anne Curry

Elaine Leong

Simon Werrett

Pablo Gómez

Maria Portuondo



Karen Rader, HSS VP Elect

### HSS/NASA Fellow for 2019-2020

Claire Isabel Webb, a fifth-year PhD candidate in the **History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society (HASTS)**

**program** at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been selected as the 2019-2020 fellow for the history of space science. Her dissertation, *Technologies of Perception: The Search for Life and Intelligence Beyond Earth* uses both historical and ethnographic methods to analyze how radio and optical astronomers call upon familiar modes of sensing to make meaning about as-yet-undiscovered objects: the alien and extraterrestrial life. Through her interdisciplinary program, Webb incorporates post-colonial theory and feminist philosophy to investigate modes of sensing and perception as they pertain to other forms of life and intelligence.

Claire's dissertation begins with the creation of NASA in 1958, when biologists began to imagine how nearby planets and the moon might reveal "biosignatures," or signs of life beyond Earth. A year later, astronomer Frank Drake



searched for "technosignatures," radio signals from an intelligent alien. Two entangled fields emerged and developed together throughout the last half of the 20th century: the search for life beyond Earth, exobiology, and the search for extraterrestrial intelligence, SETI. Exobiologists proposed universal standards of life based on chemistry and biology, and culture even as they imagined exotic, non-Earthlike microbes on Mars and Venus. SETI scientists, among them Jill Tarter and Carl Sagan, developed radio experiments through government and private funding to both send and receive messages from extraterrestrials (ET) that were based on anthropocentric criteria, while trading on imagined superhuman characteristics of the alien: more benevolent, intelligent, and technologically advanced.

*Technologies of Perception* asks: How did scientists construct experimental systems to imagine, relate to, and investigate unknown objects—ET and exotic microbes—through Earthly models of life and intelligence? Using historical material dating from 1950s-2000s, she contends that scientists imagined potential Others—extraterrestrial microbes and beings—through Earth- and body-bound metaphors of seeing (exobiologists) and listening (SETI scientists). Scientists created technologies of perception using optical and radio techniques by which they bridged the space

## HSS News, cont.

between definitions of Earthly life and human intelligence and as-yet-unknown, but potentially commensurable, forms of Other life and Other intelligence. At stake were new formulations of perceptibility and sensibility; clues to the origin of (intelligent) life on Earth; and, a transformed connection to the cosmos through technology in the post-War II era.

Webb works closely with the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI) research group **Breakthrough Listen** and is an affiliate of U.C. Berkeley. She is a recipient of the Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fellowship and the American Philosophical Society Library Resident Research Fellowship. Claire will take up residency at the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress this September as the History of Science Society / NASA Fellow. Through this generous fellowship, Webb will review archives at NASA Headquarters; the National Academies of Science; the Smithsonian Institute's National Air and Space Museum; and, the American Institute of Physics.

### 2019 *Osiris* Call for Proposals

The Editorial Board of *Osiris* solicits proposals for Volume 38 which will appear in 2022 or 2023. *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. Forthcoming volumes are concerned with the history of science and science fiction; science, technology, and food; and global medical cultures and laws.

Proposals should include the following items:

1. A description of the topic and its significance (approximately 1500 words), especially highlighting the significance of the proposed volume to the history of science, broadly construed. For an example of a successful proposal, see <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/pb-assets/docs/journals/Osiris-30-Sample-Proposal.pdf>
2. A list of 12 to 15 contributors and essay title + succinct description (~150 words) of each contributor's individual essay

3. A one-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 38 (2023) will go to press—after refereeing, authors' revisions, and copy-editing—in the fall of 2021. The guest editor(s) must therefore choose contributors who are able to submit their completed essays by the summer of 2021.

Proposals will be reviewed by the *Osiris* Editorial Board at the annual meeting of the History of Science Society. The announcement of the next volume of *Osiris* will be made in January 2020.

**Proposals and all supporting material should be sent in paper or electronic copy by 15 October 2019 to both:**

**W. Patrick McCray**

Department of History  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410  
[pmccray@history.ucsb.edu](mailto:pmccray@history.ucsb.edu)

**Suman Seth**

321 Morrill Hall  
Department of Science and Technology Studies  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
[ss536@cornell.edu](mailto:ss536@cornell.edu)

## HSS News, cont.

### Kate is Hard to Talk To

By Jay Malone

I have never been good at recognizing people or at remembering their names. These gaps extend even to family members, forcing me to stop and think before addressing my sisters-in-law. I suspect that I have a mild case of “face blindness,” or prosopagnosia, and although it can be an inconvenience, I try to remember the bright side of these blank moments. The failure to recognize people or remember their names has inoculated me from a life in politics. But even more beneficial is knowing that this forgetfulness may allow me to remain in my home during my dotage, since, at some point in my twilight, my children will come together and one will say, “I think Dad is losing his memory.” And the others will ask “How can you tell?”

Remembering names and faces is particularly difficult at HSS when I’m surrounded by hundreds of people, most of whom I haven’t seen in a year or longer. (HSS member, Virginia Trimble, has a good strategy—if you’re standing next to someone you think you know, ask the person what they are working on, which may provide you enough clues for recalling a name.) This is why I particularly like the Midwest Junto, a small regional conference that met this year for the 62nd time (hosted at the fabulous Linda Hall Library), making it the longest running regional

group in the history of science in the US. The Junto usually has around 50 attendees, making face recognition much more manageable than HSS. But even this relatively intimate gathering has its pitfalls.

Shortly after reaching the conference hotel, while in the elevator, I saw long-time Junto member Kathleen (Kate) Sheppard standing with a boy of about 5 years old. I had never met Kate’s son but I do remember that she attended the Junto some 5 years ago while she was pregnant. I quickly deduced that this must be her son and gave them an enthusiastic “Hi.” She said to her son, “Can you say hi back?” I then said something that, if I ever had the chance to live my life over, I would put in a different way. What I essentially blurted out was, “When I last saw you, you were inside your mother.” The elevator door opened and they scurried out, and I thought, “Kate is kind of hard to talk to.”

The next morning, when I saw Kate at the conference registration desk, I said “I hope I did not embarrass you in front of your son.” She looked at me blankly. “In the elevator?” I said uneasily. “No,” she said, “I wasn’t in the elevator and I didn’t bring my son.” I then told her that she had a doppelganger, one who happened to have a son the same age as hers, and then I thought about the thing that I had said.

I vowed to be more careful so early the next morning, when I went to the hotel fitness center,

I saw Kate running on a treadmill. I happen to know that Kate is an avid runner and when she saw me she waved. I finished my workout and while waiting for the elevator she joined me. I asked her if she preferred to run outside, and she said yes but it was too cold this morning. I then reminded her about an earlier conversation, where I told her that my left foot would go numb when I ran and that I had to give it (running) up. She looked at me curiously, the door opened, and she got off. I thought, again, Kate is really hard to talk to.

Later that morning, when I saw Kate at the Junto, I said “Please tell me that was you in the exercise room this morning.” “No,” she said, “I’m not staying at that hotel” (which is information I wish she had shared earlier). I had to confess that I had again met her twin, who shared her love of running, and that this poor woman was probably just being friendly because that is what kind people do for those who appear to be missing a couple of circuits. Kate then promised that when she saw me in Utrecht for HSS, she would say “Hi Jay, it’s Kate.”

So here’s a personal appeal. If you see me (and recognize me) in Utrecht, please say hi and tell me your name. But don’t do this for just when you see me. Do this with everyone so that I don’t feel too special. At the very least, it will help the doppelgangers.

## News from the Profession

### Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine June Newsletter

In this issue:

- Historical Perspectives on Contemporary Issues in Science, Technology and Medicine
- Johns Hopkins University Joins the Consortium
- 2019-2020 Incoming Fellows
- Fellows Updates
- Collections Updates
- Support the Consortium

[Read it here.](#)

### Announcing the 2019-2020 Fellows of the Beckman Center at the Science History Institute

The Beckman Center for the History of Chemistry, at the Science History Institute (formerly Chemical Heritage Foundation) in Philadelphia, is pleased to announce its 2019–2020 class of fellows. For more information, [visit the Beckman Center website.](#)

#### Two-Year 80/20 Postdoctoral Fellows

- Rebecca Kaplan (2nd Year), Cain Postdoctoral Fellow, “Treating Animals: Veterinary

Pharmaceuticals in the United States during the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries”

- Ingrid Ockert (2nd Year), Haas Postdoctoral Fellow, “The Scientific Storytellers: How Educators, Scientists, and Actors Televised Science”
- Lisa Ruth Rand (1st Year from the Consortium of History of Science, Technology, and Medicine), Haas Postdoctoral Fellow, “Space Junk: A History of Waste in Orbit”
- Charlotte Amalie Abney Salomon (1st Year from Yale University), Price Postdoctoral Fellow, “Products of the Mineral Kingdom: Mineralogy in Sweden, 1750-1820”

#### Dissertation Fellows (9 months in residence)

- Sara Ray (University of Pennsylvania), Science History Institute Fellow, “Monsters in the Cabinet: Anatomical Collecting and Abnormal Bodies, 1697-1849”
- Alexandra Straub (Temple University), Cain Dissertation Fellow, “Making Pure Water: A History of Water Softening from Potash to Tide”
- Courtney Tanner Wilder (University of Michigan), Allington Dissertation Fellow, “Novel Impressions in Printed Textiles, 1815-1851”

#### Short-Term Fellows

- Donna Alexandra Bilak (Columbia University), Allington Fellow, “Trans-Atlantic Chymistry: The Letters and Library of John Allin (1623-1683)” [4 months]
- George Daniel Elliott (Brown University), Ullyot Scholar, “Alchemy in the Home: Colonial Connecticut and Household Science in the Seventeenth-Century Anglo-Atlantic” [2 months]
- Christopher Halm (University of Regensburg), Doan Fellow, “Marl and Soil Analyses in the Early History of Agricultural Chemistry” [4 months]
- Elizabeth Neswald (Brock University), Doan Fellow, “Material Culture and Practices of Diabetes Management in the Twentieth Century” [2 months]
- Cristina Marie Nigro (University of California, San Francisco), Doan Fellow, “The Active Brain – A history of the electrophysiological and molecular study of cognition in the 20th century” [1 month]
- Tristan Edward Revells (Columbia University), Mistry Fellow, “From Bad Booze to Biofuel – Alcohol, Global Standards, and China’s First Alternative Energy Industry (1892-1946)” [2 months]

## News from the Profession, cont.

- Jennifer Tucker (Wesleyan University), Seidel Fellow, “Dangerous Exposures: Work and Waste in the Victorian Chemical Trade” [1 month]

### CFP: Special Issue on Ethnobiology in Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences

#### Ethnobiology—Perspectives from History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science

*Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*  
David Ludwig and Francisco Vergara-Silva (eds.)

Ethnobiology is an interdisciplinary field at the intersection of biological and social sciences that studies knowledge systems and practices of Indigenous, traditional, and other local communities. The complexity of biological expertise beyond academia raises both theoretical and normative questions about knowledge diversity in biological and environmental research. First, there are epistemological and ontological questions about different ways of producing, organizing, and validating biological knowledge. Second, there are ethical and political questions about the role of different

knowledge systems in shaping policies and practices. Despite these complex theoretical and normative issues, ethnobiology currently lacks integration with debates in History and Philosophy of Science (HPS) and Science and Technology Studies (STS) more generally. This special issue aims to synthesize these academic discourses and thereby develop an agenda for history, philosophy, and social studies of ethnobiology. We invite contributions that address questions such as:

- How does research on local biological knowledge relate to philosophical debates about expertise, knowledge diversity, and standpoint theory?
- How do cross-cultural similarities between biological epistemologies, ontologies, and values contribute to debates about issues such as cognitive universals, natural kinds, and ontological realism?
- How do cross-cultural differences between biological epistemologies, ontologies, and values contribute to debates about issues such as incommensurability, social construction, and relativism?
- How are biological knowledge systems and environmental practices related to wider intellectual traditions such as Buddhist, Buen Vivir, or Ubuntu philosophies?

- How does local knowledge interact with normative questions about epistemic injustice and the political ecology of bioprospecting, traditional medicine, climate injustice, food sovereignty, forest conservation, and so on?
- How did ethnobiology become institutionalized as an academic field and what historical factors have shaped its agendas?
- How does the relatively short history of institutionalized ethnobiology relate to the long history of interactions between academic biologists and local experts? How do they relate to (anti-)colonial histories of botany from the British Raj to the Dutch West Indies?
- What does ethnobiology mean for life sciences in the “Global South” and how does the field challenge hierarchies between geographic centers and peripheries of biological research?
- What is the contribution of ethnobiology to wider debates about participatory research, responsible innovation, inclusive policy, and public engagement with science?

Please submit an abstract of max. 500 words until **20 July 2019** to [david.ludwig@wur.nl](mailto:david.ludwig@wur.nl) and [fvs@ib.unam.mx](mailto:fvs@ib.unam.mx). We will invite full papers by 1 August 2019 and the deadline for full papers

## News from the Profession, cont.

is 1 November 2019. Full papers will have to follow the general Guide for Authors of Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences.

**David Ludwig** | Wageningen University |  
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### ARTEFACTS Volume “Behind the Exhibit”

The ARTEFACTS volume “Behind the Exhibit” edited by Elena Canadelli, Marco Beretta, and Laura Ronzon is finally on-line on the publisher’s website. You can **download the book**. Print copies also available.

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### “Women Untold” Documentary

SOUTHFIELD—A team of students in Lawrence Technological University’s media communication program has produced a half-hour documentary film on previously little-known contributions to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) by three women of color in the early and mid-20th century.

“Women Untold” traces the lives and accomplishments of three women of color in STEM: Jewel Plummer Cobb, a cancer research pioneer and later university administrator and president; Alice Augusta Ball, who developed a groundbreaking treatment for leprosy; and Evelyn Boyd Granville, a mathematician for IBM and NASA who contributed to space missions of the 1960s.

**The film may be viewed on YouTube.**

**See the full article online.**

### Notes and Records Special Issue

*Notes and Records*, the Royal Society Journal of the History of Science, published a special issue organized and edited by Simon Schaffer and Simon Naylor titled “Nineteenth-century

survey sciences: Enterprises, expeditions and exhibitions.”

This special issue co-ordinates a newly comparative and synthetic approach to some of the principal early nineteenth-century survey sciences prosecuted by British practitioners, including geomagnetism, geographical exploration, navigation, meteorology and the survey of imperial possessions. The essays attend to the conduct of large-scale nineteenth-century surveys across a range of domestic and overseas regions, at sea, on land and in the atmosphere. The issue significantly integrates important issues of the museology and contemporary and modern exhibitions of the material culture of survey sciences with close historical analysis of the hardware and personnel involved in the surveys. **The issue was published online in May 2019 and is available here.**

### Contents

- Introduction, *Simon Naylor and Simon Schaffer*
- Hand in hand with the survey: surveying and the accumulation of knowledge capital at India House during the Napoleonic Wars, *Jessica Ratcliff*
- Cetacean citations and the covenant of iron, *Jenny Bulstrode*
- Follow the data: administering science at Edward Sabine’s magnetic department,

## News from the Profession, cont.

Woolwich, 1841-1857, *Matthew Joseph Goodman*

- Thermometer screens and the geographies of uniformity in nineteenth-century meteorology, *Simon Naylor*
- Instrument provision and geographical science: the work of the Royal Geographical Society, 1830–c. 1930, *Charles Withers and Jane Wess*
- Geomagnetic instruments at National Museums Scotland, Alison Morrison-Low
- Survey stories in the history of British polar exploration: museums, objects and people, *Charlotte Connelly and Claire Warrior*

Purchase print issue for £35. Contact [publishing@royalsociety.org](mailto:publishing@royalsociety.org).

### History of Science and Technology Hub at the University of Warwick, UK

We're delighted to announce the launch of the History of Science and Technology Hub at the University of Warwick, UK.

The University of Warwick has a wealth of expertise in the history of science and technology. We cover the full range of scientific disciplines, from physics to anthropology to economics, as well as the technologies associated with them. Our teaching and research in this area is

distinctive. It links up the history of scientific theories with wider historical phenomena such as war, religion, globalization, ideology, social and environmental change, and the rise and fall of states and empires. This work is integrated into various projects in the History Department and is connected to other Warwick research centres in the sciences, humanities and social sciences.

The History of Science and Technology Hub is a portal to the people, teaching, research and events related to the history of science and technology at Warwick.

**To find out more, please visit our website.**

**Follow us on Twitter @HistSciTechHub.**

### May HPS&ST Note

**The May Newsletter for the History and Philosophy of Science and Science Teaching Group is on the web.**

Some highlights:

- International Congress on the History of Science in Education, May 30–June 1, 2019, Vila Real, Portugal
- 15th International History, Philosophy and Science Teaching Group (IHPST) Biennial Conference, Thessaloniki, July 15–19, 2019
- epiSTEME 8, January 3–6, 2020, Mumbai, India

- Structuring Nature: An Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Summer School, Berlin, 28 July–3 August 2019
- New Editor of *Science & Education* Journal
- University of Pittsburgh HPS Programme and Events
- Scientific Literacy for All, Beijing Normal University, Oct. 29–30, 2019

This HPS&ST monthly Note is sent to about 7,800 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 also sent to different HPS lists and to science education lists. It is an information list, not a discussion list.

The Note seeks to serve the diverse international community of HPS&ST scholars and teachers by disseminating information about events and publications that connect to HPS&ST concerns.

Contributions to the Note (publications, thematic issues, conferences, Opinion Page, etc.) are welcome and should be sent direct to the editor:

Michael R. Matthews, UNSW, [m.matthews@unsw.edu.au](mailto:m.matthews@unsw.edu.au)

## News from the Profession, cont.



From Left: Prof. Barbara Brookes (Otago); Dr. Miranda Johnson (Sydney); Prof. Philip Deloria (Harvard); and Prof. Warwick Anderson (Sydney/Harvard).

### Harvard University's Department of the History of Science Hosts Workshop on Decolonizing History of Science

What might it mean to decolonize the history of science? Several emerging leaders of the field, and many graduate students, have been seeking answers to this question. On April 12 and 13, the Department of the History of Science, with the support of the Gough Whitlam and Malcom Fraser Chair of Australian Studies and Harvard's Indigenous Studies Program, hosted a workshop examining various "postcolonial" and "decolonial" approaches to remaking

the history of science, as well as science and technology studies (STS). Organizers Gabriela Soto Laveaga and Warwick Anderson brought together some twenty-five scholars from North America and Australasia and the Pacific, many of them Indigenous researchers, for a productive two days of vigorous conversation, trying to imagine a decolonized future for our field. Harvard graduate students actively shaped these discussions, challenging many of our preconceptions. One of the highlights was Philip Deloria's launch of *Pacific Futures: Past and Present* (Hawaii, 2018), edited by Warwick Anderson, Miranda Johnson, Barbara Brookes, a collection of essays that explores other modes of doing history. The Department of the History of Science is committed to continuing and expanding these critical inquiries.

### The Midwest Junto Returns to Kansas City

by Benjamin Gross, Vice President for Research and Scholarship, Linda Hall Library for Science, Engineering & Technology

The Linda Hall Library for Science, Engineering & Technology hosted the 62nd annual meeting of the Midwest Junto for the History of Science during the weekend of 12-14 April 2019. The gathering marked a homecoming of sorts for

America's oldest regional history of science organization, which held its inaugural conference in Kansas City and Lawrence (home of the University of Kansas) in the spring of 1958. The Junto has returned to the Linda Hall Library several times since then, and in each instance, we have been pleased to provide a congenial forum for graduate students and established historians of science to present their latest research.

The 2019 Junto meeting began on Friday afternoon with an introductory tour, which provided background information about the history of the Linda Hall Library and an overview of its collections. Visitors gathered around the Library's malachite tazza, an ornamental bowl in the center of the main reading room, to learn about Kansas City businessman Herbert Hall and his wife, Linda. The Halls were prominent members of Kansas City society, who had supported a wide range of philanthropic causes throughout their lives. In a final act of civic generosity, their wills stipulated that their fortune should be used to establish a "free public library for the use of the people of Kansas City and the public generally."

The terms of the Halls' bequest specified that the new library should be established on the grounds of their estate and named after Linda, but the choice of collecting focus was left to the first board of trustees. Following conversations with

## News from the Profession, cont.

community leaders, the board concluded that Kansas City would benefit from the presence of a science and technology library. In May 1946, they purchased the library of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, which formed the foundation for the Linda Hall Library's subsequent collecting activity. Since then, the Library has remained committed to preserving print material related to science, engineering, technology, and their histories. Today its collections contain over 1.2 million volumes, including over 300,000 monographs and 43,000 journal titles.

The scale of these collections became more apparent when the tour moved from the

reading room into the Library's closed stacks, which feature 40 miles worth of shelving. Junto attendees had the chance to visit to the History of Science Collection, which houses 50,000 rare books dating from the 15th century to the present. Vice President for Special Collections Jason W. Dean showcased several recent acquisitions, including Jane Squire's *A Proposal to Determine Our Longitude* (1743), a 19th-century American astronomical manuscript, and a biographical sketch of Rosalind Franklin written by her mother, Muriel. After the rare book presentation, guests relocated to a restaurant in Kansas City's Brookside neighborhood for a happy hour reception.

The formal Junto program began on Saturday morning in the Linda Hall Library auditorium. Lisa Browar, the Library's president, welcomed the nearly fifty people in attendance. There were six paper sessions on Saturday and two more on Sunday. As is Junto custom, the speakers covered a wide range of topics, including same-sex couples in the history of archaeology, seismology in colonial India, and the origins of bicycle motocross (BMX). Between Saturday's sessions, Junto participants visited the Library's exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing (*To the Moon: The Science of Apollo*) and enjoyed coffee breaks sponsored by the UMKC Department of History and the University of Kansas School of Medicine.

At the end of the afternoon, everyone posed for a group photograph before heading to a local Italian restaurant for the annual Junto banquet. The highlight of the evening was the Stuart Pierson Memorial Lecture, which was delivered by molecular biologist Alejandro Sánchez Alvarado. In his presentation, "Animal Regeneration and the Evolution of Thought in Biology," Sánchez Alvarado traced the genealogy of experimental biology from Abraham Trembley's experiments on polyps to his own investigations of planaria at the Stowers Institute for Medical Research.



Attendees of the 2019 Midwest Junto for the History of Science posed for a group photograph in the main reading room of the Linda Hall Library.

## News from the Profession, cont.

The first group of Sunday's papers focused on pedagogy and historiography, while the second explored debates over scientific authority from the 18th century until the present. Before the final session, there was a coffee break sponsored in honor of Sally Gregory Kohlstedt, the 2018 winner of HSS's Sarton Medal, followed by the Junto's annual business meeting. President Sander Gliboff (Indiana University) announced that Benjamin Gross (Linda Hall Library) would serve as president for the next year. Peter Ramberg (Truman State University) accepted the position of president-elect, while Kathleen Sheppard (Missouri S&T) remained in office as secretary-treasurer. The Junto council keeps Kerry Magruder (University of Oklahoma) for another year and welcomes Dana Tulodziecki (Purdue University) for a two-year appointment. The date and location of the 2020 Junto will be announced later this year.

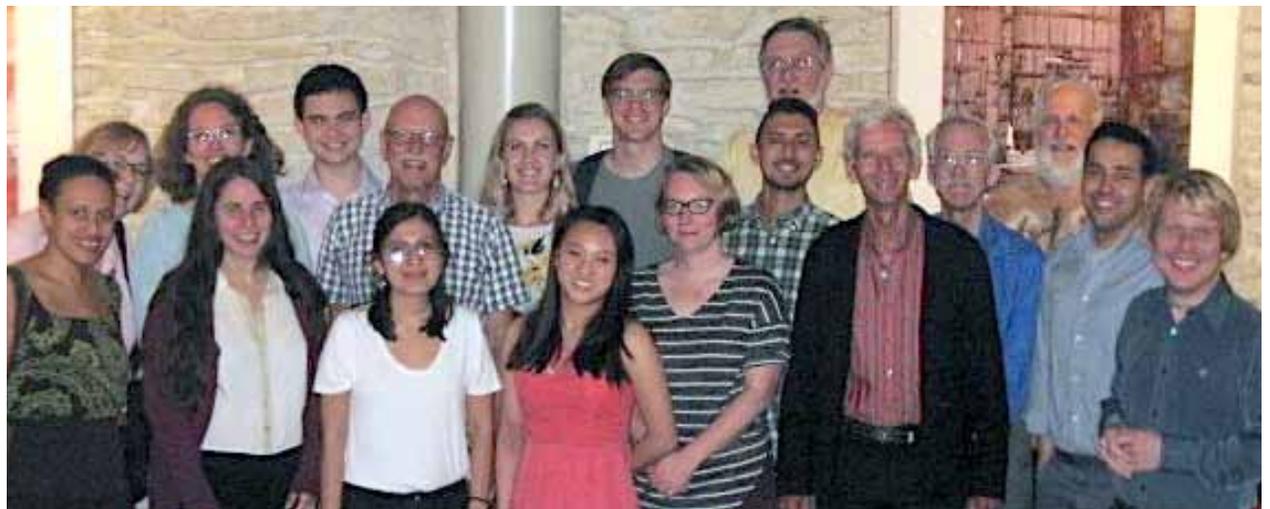
In the end, the 2019 meeting of the Midwest Junto was a great success thanks to our speakers, panel chairs, the Junto officers, and above all, the staff of the Linda Hall Library, who made sure everything ran smoothly behind the scenes. This year's program, along with those from previous meetings, is available on the Junto website (<https://midwestjunto.wordpress.com/>).

### Lone Star Historians of Science 32nd Annual Meeting

Continuing a tradition that has now been running far longer than its founders would have ever imagined, the Lone Star History of Science Group held its thirty-second annual meeting on 5 April 2019 at the University of Texas in Austin. The gathering was hosted by Bruce Hunt of the UT History Department, who also served as this year's speaker.

In his talk, "To Rule the Waves: Britain's Cable Empire and the Making of 'Maxwell's

Equations,'" Professor Hunt examined how and why the iconic set of vector equations of the electromagnetic field now known as "Maxwell's equations" came to be formulated in Britain in the second half of the nineteenth century, and why the equations were in fact cast into their most familiar form not by James Clerk Maxwell, but by Oliver Heaviside. He argued that to understand these developments, we must look to the demands and opportunities presented by the global network of submarine telegraph cables that came to form the "nervous system" of the British Empire in the late Victorian era, and used this case to make some broader points about the relationship between science and technology.



Left to Right: Abena Osseo-Asare, Beth Hedrick, Emily Hutcheson, Elizabeth O'Brien, John Miri, Paul Sinclair, Diana Heredia, Sarah Jenevein, Aina Ongcheap, John Lisle, Megan Raby, Rodolfo John Alaniz, Bruce Hunt, Cliff Cunningham, Karl Stephan, Steve Bratteng, Al Martinez, Van Herd. Not pictured: Anthony Stranges.

## News from the Profession, cont.

After a lively discussion, the group headed off to enjoy dinner and further conversation at the nearby Clay Pit Indian restaurant.

Each spring, the Lone Star Group brings together historians of science, technology, and medicine from around Texas to discuss their shared interests and enjoy a friendly dinner. Its constitution, adopted at an Austin restaurant in 1988, provides that there shall be “no officers, no by-laws, and no dues,” and the group remains resolutely informal. The next Lone Star meeting will be hosted by Professor Anthony Stranges at Texas A&M University in College Station in April 2020. Anyone wishing to be added to the group’s mailing list (and that’s all it takes to become a member in good standing) should contact Bruce Hunt of the University of Texas at [bjhunt@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:bjhunt@austin.utexas.edu).

### 2019 JAS-Bio

#### 54th Annual Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Biology (JAS-Bio)

*Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA*

On 30 March 2019, over forty-five historians of biology convened at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) in Woods Hole, MA, for the 54th Annual Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Biology (JAS-Bio). The conference has a long history of fostering collegiality, professional contacts, and a friendly environment where early-career scholars may present their work. This year was no exception, with the weather cooperating for a highly successful seminar.

This year’s meeting included five sessions. The first, “Sugar and Kitchens: Consumers and Biology in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries,” explored how the histories of both artificial sweeteners and bacteriology proved deeply intertwined with developments in the law, public health, and domestic life during the US Progressive and interwar periods. The second session, “Finding Meaning in the Small Stuff,” brought together the histories of ethology, metabolism, and botany with cultural and feminist approaches, exploring the manifold scientific meanings taken on by “small” entities, from bees to bacteria to plants, in the 20th-century life sciences. The third session,

“Knowledge Claims and Epistemic Persuasion,” kicked off the afternoon. The speakers employed analyses of material, video, and archival sources to explore how racial illustrations in cranial collections, sociobiological research and rhetoric, and radiation-damaged chromosomes have historically taken on powerful, poignant epistemological valances, from eighteenth-century phrenology through the Cold War. The speakers in the fourth session, “Genes and the Present: Ways of Knowing in Molecular Biology,” adopted a more present-oriented approach, exploring how re-creating evolution



2019 JAS-Bio attendees who, at some point in their career, gave their first history of science talk at JAS-Bio.

*Photo Credit: Angela Creager. Location: Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts*

## News from the Profession, cont.

in laboratory settings can help scholars to reassess the historical roles played by technologies in molecular biology, and how STS approaches might inform key science policy questions and such real-world translations of these policies as in control of invasive species. Finally, due to popular demand, the seminar ended with an hour-long workshop on computational methods.

Kate MacCord (MBL) and Kathryn Maxson Jones (Princeton University and MBL) organized the conference. Funding was generously provided by the **MBL McDonnell Initiative**, courtesy of the James S. McDonnell Foundation. The 2019 coordinators would like to warmly thank all who participated, including the speakers and the attendees, who this year came from places much farther away from the meeting's usual geographical reach; the MBL's events and dining staff; and finally the McDonnell Foundation for making such a productive and enjoyable event possible. The 55th Annual JAS-Bio will take place in 2020 at the Johns Hopkins University. For more information, please contact Sharon Kingsland ([sharon@jhu.edu](mailto:sharon@jhu.edu)).

—Kathryn Maxson Jones & Kate MacCord

### New Books in Science Seeking Podcast Hosts

**New Books in Science** is currently seeking hosts interested in conducting interviews with authors of new books on science and the history of science. Hosting the channel is a good way to bring the work of scholars of science to the attention of large audiences. Interested parties should write Marshall Poe at [marshallpoe@gmail.com](mailto:marshallpoe@gmail.com).

New Books in Science is part of the **New Books Network**, a non-profit consortium of 84 author-interview podcasts focused on academic books. The NBN serves one million episodes a month to a worldwide audience. Its mission is outreach and public education.

### ACLS/Mellon Dissertation Fellows

The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) is pleased to announce the 2019 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellows. The 67 fellows, who hail from 42 US universities, comprise one of the most institutionally diverse cohorts in the history of this fellowship. They were selected from a pool of more than 1,000 applicants through multiple stages of peer review. Now in its thirteenth year, the fellowship

program offers promising graduate students one year of funding so that they can focus their attention on completing projects that form the foundations of their scholarly careers.

“The innovative research undertaken by our Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellows represents the future of scholarship in the humanities and social sciences,” said ACLS program officer Valerie Popp. “The fellows’ work spans a broad range of time periods, geographic regions, and disciplines, including philosophy, literature, gender studies, music, history, and sociology. Amid such diverse research topics, several notable themes emerged this year, including the study of carceral states; the exploration of connections among culture, politics, and ecological change; and a focus on labor in communities around the world.”

The fellowship provides a \$30,000 stipend and up to \$8,000 in research funds and university fees to advanced graduate students in their final year of dissertation writing. The program, which is made possible by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, also includes a faculty-led academic job market seminar, hosted by ACLS, to further prepare fellows for their postgraduate careers.

Fellows in disciplines pertaining to the history of science, technology, or medicine are listed below:

## News from the Profession, cont.

**David E. Dunning** (History, Princeton University) *Writing the Rules of Reason: Notations in Mathematical Logic, 1847-1937*

**Poyao Huang** (Communication and Science Studies, University of California, San Diego) *Becoming HIV Negative on PrEP: The Material Culture of HIV Medicine and Gay Taiwanese Men's Sexual Health*

**Hyeok Hweon Kang** (East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University) *A Hundred Crafts: Technology, Knowledge, and the Military in Late Chosŏn Korea, 1592-1910*

**Charles A. Kollmer** (History of Science, Princeton University) *From Elephant to Bacterium: Microbes, Microbiologists, and the Chemical Order of Nature*

**Renee Shelby** (History and Sociology, Georgia Institute of Technology) *Designing Justice: Sexual Violence, Technology, and Citizen-Activism*

**Chelsea Rae Silva** (English, University of California, Riverside) *Bedwritten: Middle English Medicine and the Ailing Author*

**Zina B. Ward** (History & Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh) *Individual Differences in Cognitive Science: Conceptual, Methodological, and Ethical Issues*

**Rachel Q. Welsh** (History, New York University) *Proof in the Body: Ordeal, Justice, and the Physical Manifestation of Proof in Medieval Iberia, ca. 1050-1300*

**Daniel J. Williford** (History, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor) *Concrete Futures: Technologies of Urban Crisis in Colonial and Postcolonial Morocco*

**Farren Yero** (History, Duke University) *Laboratories of Consent: Vaccine Science in the Spanish Atlantic World, 1779-1840*

The ACLS also announced its 2019 Fellows, Awards range from \$40,000 to \$70,000, depending on the scholar's career stage, and support six to twelve months of full-time research and writing. This year's 81 fellows were selected by their peers from over 1100 applicants in a review process with multiple stages.

The ACLS Fellowship program, the longest-running of its current fellowship and grant programs, is funded primarily by the ACLS endowment. Institutions and individuals have contributed to this program, including The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, Arcadia Charitable Trust, the Council's Research University Consortium and college and university Associates, past fellows, and individual friends of ACLS.

ACLS Fellows whose projects may be of interest to HSS members are listed below:

**Allan M. Brandt** (Professor of the History of Science, Global Health, and Social Medicine, Harvard University) *Enduring Stigma: Historical Perspectives on Disease Meanings and Their Impact*

**Anna Henchman** (Associate Professor of English, Boston University) *Tiny Creatures and the Boundaries of Being in the Nineteenth-Century British*

**Jennifer Jahner** (Assistant Professor of Humanities, California Institute of Technology) *The Medieval Experimental Imagination: Scientific and Literary Method in Later Medieval England*

**Hilary Falb Kalisman** (Assistant Professor of History and Endowed Professor of Israel/Palestine Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder) *Standardized Testing: An Imperial Legacy of the Modern Middle East*

**Anne Pollock** (Professor of Global Health and Social Medicine, King's College London, UK) *Race and Biopolitics in the Twenty-first Century*

**Jennifer Rhee** (Associate Professor of English, Virginia Commonwealth University) *Counting: Cultures of Measurement, Quantification, and Surveillance*

## News from the Profession, cont.

**Sara Ritchey** (Associate Professor of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville) *Communities of Care: Women, Healing, and Prayer in the Late Medieval Lowlands*

**Katherine Unterman** (Associate Professor of History, Texas A&M University, College Station) *The Colonial Constitution: Law and Empire in the US Territories*

**Don Edward Walicek** (Professor of English and Linguistics, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras) *Speaking 'American' in Samaná: Migration, Freedom, and Belonging*

**Keren Weitzberg** (Teaching Fellow of History, University College London, UK) *Marketized Identities: A History of ID Cards, Registration, and Biometrics in Kenya*

Contact: Matthew Goldfeder,  
[fellowships@acls.org](mailto:fellowships@acls.org)

### Documenting the Impact and Reach of the NEH

By Cecily Hill

In 2017, in response to the Trump administration's threat to cut funding to the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Humanities Alliance, with generous support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation,

launched the *NEH for All* initiative to document the impact of NEH funding and to tell the story of its impact in ways that are compelling to policymakers and other stakeholders.

Our first goal was to convey the impact of NEH funding through short, to-the-point narratives that explored both the direct and indirect benefits of humanities work. Our website features more than 160 profiles covering individual projects and organizations in every state demonstrating just how this work is being accomplished. These profiles also showcase a broad range of humanities institutions and types of work. The website features public humanities initiatives, research projects, historical sites, digitization projects, exhibitions, community conversations, and preservation and conservation programs. It also highlights the work of universities, libraries, state and local historical societies, humanities centers, museums, and living history organizations.

Importantly, we are also working to demonstrate the broad impact of humanities research by tracing its rippling effects on policy, school classrooms, museum exhibitions, and film and television—in short, on public conversations and ways of knowing. NEHforAll.org already includes many examples of humanities research that has had an impact both inside and outside of the academy, from Robert Baker and

## Fellowships Available

The **Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University** awards 50 funded residential fellowships each year designed to support scholars, scientists, artists, and writers of exceptional promise and demonstrated accomplishment.

For more information,  
please contact:

Radcliffe Application Office  
8 Garden Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
617-496-1324  
[fellowships@radcliffe.harvard.edu](mailto:fellowships@radcliffe.harvard.edu)  
[www.radcliffe.harvard.edu](http://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu)



RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE  
FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

## News from the Profession, cont.

Laurence McCullough's *Cambridge World History of Medical Ethics*, to Patricia Crown's **archaeological discoveries in Chaco Canyon**. Our work over the next year will be to continue demonstrating this impact, producing new case studies and uncovering the processes by which scholarly works become part of our national discourse.

We are also partnering with current NEH grantees to survey participants, collecting data about the impact of humanities programs, and why people value them. By thus gathering geographic data on the NEH's regranting programs and professional development programs, we are mapping the agency's national impact.

Many NEH-funded programs have impacts that extend far beyond the geographic location of the initial grantee. *NEH on the Road* exhibitions travel the country; the American Library Association's Great Stories Club provides reading and discussion programs for at-risk youth in every state; educators and conservators alike travel to participate in professional development programs. Over the last year, NHA has compiled data and created interactive maps that document this impact. Now visitors to the site can see that **participants in NEH professional development programs for K-12 educators** come from every region of the country. They can learn where

**preservation education programs, public dialogues, and NEH on the Road exhibitions** have taken place. And they can zoom in on their hometown to find newspapers that have been digitized by the **Chronicling America initiative**, which is digitizing the nation's historical newspapers in partnership with the Library of Congress. These data effectively demonstrate that NEH funding extends far beyond big cities or college towns—it reaches even the most rural areas of the country.

Whereas the stated aim of the project is to showcase how the NEH has an impact, we are, in practice, also developing methods to highlight the humanities' contributions to our communities more broadly. Over the next year, we will be releasing still more information about the humanities' impact as well as models for evaluating and presenting your own impact. We encourage you to visit **NEHforAll.org**, to avail yourself of its resources when communicating with policymakers and stakeholders—as well as to stay tuned into new developments.

### Newton the Alchemist:

#### *30% Discount to HSS Members*

Newton's experiments in alchemy are finally demystified in William R. Newman's recently published *Newton the Alchemist: Science, Enigma, and the Quest for Nature's "Secret Fire."*

Princeton University Press is offering a **30% discount to HSS members** to purchase the book online.

Please enter discount code **HSS19** in the PUP shopping cart; discount offer expires **31 August 2019**.