# Newsletter

Vol. 46, No. 4 October 2017

of the History of Science Society

# History of Science Society Annual Meeting Toronto, Canada, 9-12 November 2017 Welcome To Toronto

Downtown Toronto during the day. Roy Thomson Hall is in the foreground. Photo by Benson Kua.

Toronto is a vibrant, dynamic, walkable city. Those willing to explore will soon see why Toronto was named the world's most diverse city by a 2016 BBC study, and one of the world's most livable cities by *The Economist* in 2015. There are culinary delights, public spaces, cultural spaces, and much, much more. What follows is a short introduction to the environs of our hotel and the city beyond.

The conference hotel is the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel (123 Queen St W, Toronto, ON M5H 2M9, Canada), which is across from Nathan Phillips Square, between Bay Street and University Avenue. This centrally located property is connected to the underground and its dozens of places to eat and shop and features the largest indoor/outdoor heated pool in downtown Toronto (don't forget your bathing

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# THAT Camp returns to HSS

The HSS is sponsoring its 4th annual THATCamp on Sunday, November 12 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the conference hotel, Sheraton Centre Toronto. The camp is free and open to anyone who wants to spend time exploring digital history of science. The website hss2017.thatcamp.org has full details and registration information. Follow us on twitter at #THATCampHSS.

People of all experience levels are welcome newbies as well as experienced coders. The goal is to interact, try out new applications, ask questions, give advice, and learn.

In addition to the lightning talks and "unconference" sessions, we have scheduled two keynote lectures for the lunchtime slot: Charles Pence (Louisiana State University) and John Stewart (University of Oklahoma). Pence will talk about "Text Mining in the History of Science." Stewart will discuss material from his experience as Assistant Director of Digital Learning at OU.







John Stewart

Some food and refreshments will be provided, including a light lunch.

This year's THATCamp is being planned by **Kate Sheppard** (Missouri University of Science and Technology), **Danielle Picard** (Vanderbilt), and **Stephen Weldon** (University of Oklahoma).

### History of Science Society

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University of Chicago Press Phone: 877-705-1878; Fax 877-705-1879 E-mail: subscriptions@press.uchicago.edu Or write: University of Chicago Press, Subscription Fulfillment Manager, PO Box 37005, Chicago, IL 60637-7363

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. Please send photographs in a jpeg format, with a maximum size of 1024 pixels and file size of 1 MB to maintain quality during sizing and printing. The deadline for news, announcements, and job/fellowship/prize listings is firm: four weeks prior to the month of publication. Long items (feature stories) should be submitted eight weeks prior to the month of publication. Please send all material to the attention of the Executive Office: info@hssonline.org.

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suit). There are lots of things to do and see in the vicinity of the Sheraton, with excellent restaurants to be found in every direction.

### 1. Eating Near the Hotel:

### Coffee/Breakfast:

- Starbucks (Queen and Bay)
- **Tim Hortons** (65 Queen St, east of hotel; Richmond, just west of University)
- **Sak's Food Hall** (basement of Hudson's Bay building, Queen and Yonge)
- The Senator Restaurant (249 Victoria, south of Dundas) 1940s style diner with vintage decor
- Fran's Diner (200 Victoria Street)
- Le Petit Déjeuner (King East, east of Jarvis)
- Panera Bread (Yonge, just north of Dundas)

### Lunch:

The Eaton Centre Food Court (north end of mall, just south of Dundas) is likely your best option for variety, proximity, and price.

Bannock (Queen and Bay) has some grab and go options as well as table service. Sak's Food Hall (see above) is a good option. If you walk north on University to Dundas Street, and then go east along the south side of Dundas towards Bay, there are a variety of excellent ramen places (Toronto is experiencing a ramen renaissance): best options are Sansotei (worth the wait) and Kenzo. For Korean, there is Kimchi Korea house. Lots of other options along this strip:

Middle Eastern, Szechuan, Thai, burgers, etc. If you're willing to go a bit further, the **Village by the Grange** at Dundas and McCaul has some good food court options, but they are likely closed on Sundays. The Senator (above) is a nice spot for lunch.

If you walk west on Queen West for 10-15 minutes, past University, you'll find a number of sushi places and other spots along Queen, east of Spadina. Recommended: The Queen Mother, Me Va Me, The Rivoli, La Carnitas (on John), Hosu Bistro, Café Crêpe, Little India, Pho Vistro, Tohenboku Ramen, Korean Grill House, Banh Mi Boys.

### Dinner:

An easy walk from the hotel:

### Higher End (\$\$\$\$)

- Canoe (top of TD building, 66 Wellington Street)
- Ruth's Chris Steak House (Richmond and University)
- Nota Bene (Queen, west of University)

### Mid-Range (\$\$\$)

- Bannock (Queen and Bay) Canadian classics
- **The Keg** (165 York St)
- **Barberians** (Elm St) classic steakhouse with a huge wine list

- **Trattoria Mercatto** (north end of Eaton Centre)
- Momofuku Daishō (University south of Adelaide) upstairs; can reserve set feasts for large groups
- Momofuku Noodle Bar (University south of Adelaide) excellent ramen!
- **John and Sons Oyster House** (Temperance, just west of Bay)
- Drake One Fifty (York, south of Richmond)
- **VOLOS** (York and Richmond) higher end Greek food
- **Terroni** (Adelaide west of Victoria) lovely Neapolitan pizza
- **Reds Wine Tavern** (Adelaide west of Bay)
- The Queen and Beaver Public House (Elm, east of Bay, north of Dundas)
- The Burger's Priest (Adelaide west of University) reportedly the best burgers in town

### Cheaper but Excellent (\$\$)

- **Sansotei** (Dundas between University and Bay)
- Kenzo (Dundas between University and Bay)
- Spring Rolls (Dundas and Yonge)
- **Smoke's Poutinerie** (Adelaide, west of University)

### Cheaper still but Good (\$)

• Salad King (340 Yonge St. upstairs)

### 2. Dining Further Afield:

If you're willing to walk a bit, hail a cab, or Uber it (or use public transit!), here are some areas with excellent dining options and places for cocktails and snacks:

### Queen West, King West, and environs

### *Higher End (\$\$\$\$)*

- Lee Restaurant (King and Bathurst) by celebrity chef Susur Lee
- Le Select Bistro (Wellington, south of King, west of Spadina) a personal favorite

### Mid-Range (\$\$\$)

- The Queen Mother Cafe (208 Queen St W) Asian fusion
- **The Rivoli** (334 Queen St W) great for drinks and some interesting veggie options
- The Rex Hotel (194 Queen St W) beer and excellent live jazz!
- La Palette (492 Queen St W) French bistro
- Epicure Cafe (502 Queen St W)

### Downtown

- **Sabai Sabai** (81 Bloor St E) Thai and Laotian \$\$
- El Catrin (18 Tank House Lane) Mexican, Distillery District \$\$\$
- **Lola's Kitchen** (634 Church St) \$\$-\$\$\$

### Vegetarian

- Fresh (147 Spadina Ave) \$\$-\$\$\$
- **Saigon Lotus** (6 St Andrew, just west of Spadina) \$\$

# Baldwin Street (between Beverley and McCaul)

- Café la Gaffe (24 Baldwin St) charming French bistro \$\$\$
- Margaritas (14 Baldwin St) \$\$
- Bodega (30 Baldwin St) French \$\$\$

# Chinatown/Kensington Market and environs

N.B. Many restaurants in Chinatown and smaller places in Kensington Market do not take credit cards. Kensington market has dozens of excellent, small, reasonably priced takeaway places and food stands along Kensington Street and Augusta Street. Some are only open during the day. Some high points are Seven Lives Tacos (fish tacos); Junior's Empanadas; Rasta Pasta; Otto's Berlin Döner.

- Rol San (323 Spadina Ave) \$\$
- Asian Legend (418 Dundas St W) \$\$
- Mother's Dumplings (421 Spadina Ave) \$\$
- **Dumpling House** (328 Spadina Ave) \$\$
- **Supermarket** (Augusta south of College) \$\$-\$\$\$
- **King's Café** (Augusta) East Asian vegetarian \$\$
- Bar Raval (College and Bathurst) top-notch cocktails \$\$

- Frank Restaurant (in the Art Gallery of Ontario, Dundas and McCaul); named after Frank Gehry \$\$\$
- Woodlot (Palmerston, south of College) \$\$\$

### Dundas West (west of Bathurst)

- The Black Hoof (Dundas and Bellwoods) "nose-to-tail" dining \$\$\$
- La Campagnolo (Dundas and Euclid) Italian \$\$\$
- Enoteca Sociale (Dundas and Dovercourt)
  Italian, boasts a cheese cave! \$\$\$
- The Lockhart (Dundas at Dufferin) and Harry Potter-themed cocktails and tasty tapas
- The Lakeview (Dundas at Ossington) vintage diner \$\$

# Ossington Avenue between Dundas and Queen

This area has become hip in the last five years, some excellent restaurants along this strip. A short cab ride, or take the 501 streetcar west along Queen to Ossington and walk North. Worth the trip. Recommended:

- BQM (210 Ossington Ave) burgers \$\$
- **Union** (72 Ossington Ave) excellent locally-sourced meals \$\$\$
- **Pizzeria Libretto** (155 University Ave) delicious Neapolitan pizza \$\$-\$\$\$
- Salt (225 Ossington Ave) tapas and wine \$\$\$

- Mamakas Taverna (80 Ossington Ave) gourmet Greek food \$\$\$
- Rashers (182 Ossington Ave) bacon sandwiches! \$

# Entertainment District (King, between University and Spadina)

This is the theatre district and most places err on the touristy side, but some great spots such as:

- Elephant and Castle (212 King St W) pub \$\$
- Penelope (225 King St W) lovely Greek food \$\$\$
- Canteen (280 Spadina Ave) at the TIFF Bell Lightbox \$\$\$

# Queen West West (Queen Street, west of Bathurst)

- Drake Hotel (Queen and Beaconsfield) \$\$\$
- **Gladstone Hotel** (Queen and Gladstone) \$\$\$
- The Beaver Cafe (Queen and Gladstone) \$\$\$
- Terroni (Queen and Bathurst) \$\$\$
- The Paddock (Bathurst, south of Queen) \$\$
- **Poutini's House of Poutine** (Queen and Dovercourt) \$
- Wvrst (King and Bathurst) \$\$
- **Grand Electric** (Queen, west of Dufferin) tacos and a mile-long bourbon list \$\$
- For delicious eclairs check out **Nugateau**, on Queen west of Bathurst

For more on dining in the city, check out the bar and restaurant guides of **Toronto Life magazine** and **NOW magazine**.

### 3. LGBTQ+ Toronto

Toronto is a very LGBTQ-positive city. The historic gay and lesbian district, otherwise known as "The Village," is on Church Street, north of Carlton and roughly south of Isabella. Notable spots here are:

- **Smith** (553 Church St) French and cocktails \$\$-\$\$\$
- Spirits (642 Church St) pub with good beer and decent food \$\$
- Café California (538 Church St) great patio for people watching \$\$
- The Hair of the Dog (425 Church St) north of Carlton \$\$
- Glad Day Bookshop (499 Church St) free wifi

But there are now queer-friendly spots all over the city:

- Wish (3 Charles Street W) \$\$
- 7 West (7 Charles Street W) \$\$
- The Beaver Cafe (Queen West at Gladstone) great food and cocktails \$\$\$
- WALYA (996 Queen East at Carlaw) karaoke! \$\$

- Lipstick and Dynamite (Queen and Ossington) \$
- The Fountain (Dundas near Dovercourt) \$\$
- The Gladstone Hotel (Queen West at Gladstone) historic, wonderfully restored; karaoke and a great restaurant \$\$

Queen West West boasts several good spots: http://www.queerwest.org/guide2.php

For weekly events: https://www.dailyxtra.com/topic/arts-entertainment

A great LGBTQ+ bar and club list can be found here: http://www.seetorontonow.com/toronto-diversity/bars-and-clubs/ - sm.00009gf3dw13u mdoystncxxp0kqry

### 4. Pubs, Bars, and Watering Holes

- The Duke of Richmond (Eaton Centre)
- The Horseshoe Tavern (Queen and Spadina)
- The Queen and Beaver Public House (Elm between Bay and Yonge)
- The Elephant and Castle (King west of University)
- Imperial Pub (Dundas east of Yonge)
- The Oxley (121 Yorkville)
- The Three Brewers (Yonge, south of Dundas)

- The Wheat Sheaf (King and Bathurst) pub food; Toronto's oldest bar
- Sweaty Betty's (Ossington north of Queen)
- The Wallflower (Dundas east of Lansdowne) a local fave
- The Communist's Daughter (Dundas and Ossington)
- Cameron House (Queen west of Spadina)
- Prenup Pub (College and Henry)

### 5. Gems:

For those of you in need of distractions or breaks from sessions, here are some of Toronto's highlights:

### Within easy walking distance of the hotel:

- BCE Place (181 Bay St)
- Art Gallery of Ontario and Grange Park (317 Dundas St)
- Ontario College of Art and Design University (OCADU) (100 McCaul St)
- Chinatown/Kensington Market
- Yonge Street (Toronto's answer to Times Square)

### A longer walk:

- Royal Ontario Museum (100 Queens Park)
- Yorkville and Toronto Reference Library
- University of Toronto downtown campus, including Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library (120 St George St)
- Steam Whistle Brewer/Toronto Railway Museum (255 Bremner Blvd)

### Further afield:

- Ontario Science Centre (770 Don Mills Rd)
- Aga Khan Museum (77 Wynford Dr)
- Distillery District
- St Lawrence Market (93 Front St E)
- Harbourfront (235 Queens Quay W)
- Fort York (250 Fort York Blvd)
- Toronto Islands
- High Park (873 Bloor St W)

### 6. Some Useful Information

**Tipping:** Gratuity is usually included for parties of six or more but it's best to ask. Standard rate is 15%-20%.

**Safety:** Toronto is a safe city, but please use common sense.

**Weather:** November can be chilly in Toronto, similar to Chicago in climate. Be prepared for lots of things—we suggest bringing layers. A winter coat would be advisable.

**Transit:** The closest subway stop to the Sheraton is Osgoode Station (Queen and University). Local cabs are fairly easy to find. Uber has a presence in Toronto if that's what you prefer. For public transit (the TTC), it's easiest to purchase a Presto card and use this to pay. Fare is \$3.25 for adults, \$2.10 for seniors; or \$3 and \$2.05 with a Presto card. Children under 12 travel free.

Easiest travel from airport to hotel: take the Union-Pearson Express train from Pearson to Union Station for \$9 (with a Presto card) then take the subway (University-Spadina line) north to Osgoode Station. Hotel is a short walk west along Queen. Cabs will be about \$50 with tip.

**And Don't Forget:** 11 November is Remembrance Day, and downtown Toronto will feature multiple activities to commemorate the occasion. Shops and restaurants will be crowded.



November 11

### The Smithsonian Conservation Commons' Earth Optimism Summit 2017

by Kate Christen (Smithsonian Institution)

During Earth Day weekend, 21-23 April 2017, the Smithsonian Institution convened the first "Earth Optimism Summit" in Washington, D.C. This three-day event focused on highlighting, explicating, and celebrating approaches, methods, and philosophies that are working for conservation of nature, natural resources, and nature-respecting human systems around the globe. Equally important, the Summit presenters' many narratives also focused on exploring how to replicate or scale up these successes.

The Summit featured TED-style talks by some 200 speakers, representing a wide mix of professions and vocations, including many academics from the natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences. Alongside these were civic and business leaders, philanthropists, conservation field practitioners, and former and present representatives of government entities and non-governmental organizations. Naturally, many of the speakers fit more—sometimes several more—than one of these professional categories.

"One of the greatest strengths of the Smithsonian is the unique position we occupy at the intersection of the arts, humanities, and sciences," said Smithsonian Secretary David J. Skorton just ahead of the Summit. "Earth Optimism is an example of how we can leverage this position."



Dr. Leah Barclay, Australian sound artist, composer, and researcher, President of the Australian Forum for Acoustic Ecology, presenting in the *Science, Conservation, Inspiration* session of the 2017 Earth Optimism Summit. *Photo Credit: Ronda Ann Gregorio* 

As a world-known crosspoint for all sectors of disciplinary knowledge, research, and display, the Smithsonian's Earth Optimism "leveraging" drew together a range of thinkers and doers from around the globe to illustrate ecologically and environmentally sound approaches to some of the most pressing issues facing the world today. The cumulative effect of all these concise, engaging narratives of journey, transition, and success

was indeed both optimism and a new "how-to" awareness among Summit-goers. As Smithsonian marine scientist and Summit co-chair Nancy Knowlton puts it, "The best way to encourage conservation is to share our success stories, not to write ever-more-refined obituaries for the planet."

With no single venue at the Smithsonian ample enough to house its plenaries and multiple

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simultaneous "deep dive" sessions, the core Summit activities took place at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center. Steps away from the Federal Triangle Metro Station, the site is also a short distance from the Smithsonian's many history, science, and art museums and research centers on Washington, D.C.'s National Mall. Nearly 1,500 onsite ticketed Summit participants attended these Reagan Center talks. Thousands of additional viewers tuned in via live web stream. With all of the Summit's speaker presentation events available online at the Summit's web portal, these "virtual attendee" numbers continue to grow.

More than 400 students participated in the ticketed Summit events, including undergraduate and graduate students from 59 institutions of higher learning. Thirty-two high school students from 13 schools also attended with their mentors. High school and university students engaged in several activities designed specifically for and by them: Youth Conservation Salons in a lightningtalk format, capacity-building workshops such as how to make compelling videos or launch Kickstarter campaigns, and an Earth Optimism video competition.

Public access to Summit activities was an intentional component from the outset of planning. In addition to live-streaming and archiving the talks, this also translated to

providing a host of onsite activities in the Reagan Center's large entrance forum, a publicly accessible area that welcomed more than 1000 non-ticketed visitors over the weekend. Saturday saw many damp drop-ins from the March for Science and Saturday's transit between Summit and March went both ways: numerous summit speakers and ticketed attendees, including Dennis Hayes, national coordinator of the first Earth Day in 1970, were also marchers, pre-March rally speakers, or even March organizers. Like many, my teenage son split his time that day between Summit and March, somehow even finding himself an opportunity to high-five Bill Nye as the March got underway.

Marchers who stopped into the Summit found plenty to experience onsite, including an exhibit, curated by Smithsonian Institutional Historians Pamela Henson and Lisa Fthenakis, of captioned historic images of Smithsonian environmental monitoring and conservation programs, ranging from weather observing networks in the 1850s, to bison conservation at the National Zoo, to a present-day project digitizing 19th-century field notebooks. Dropins could also partake in twenty interactive exhibits showcasing innovative conservation tools, products, and programs associated with groups such as Cornell University's Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, Conservation

International, National Geographic, and many others.

The Summit also extended across the Smithsonian itself. In addition to the action at the Reagan Center, two dozen public events were held in 14 Smithsonian museums and galleries in Washington, New York, and Panama. These events included film screenings, a teenonly program at the National Museum of Natural History, and an exhibit on the history of Earth Day at the National Museum of American History. Arts and culture were well represented by events at the National Portrait Gallery, National Museum of the American Indian, and at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in New York. Optimism also spread throughout the world that weekend: from Colombia to New Zealand, a variety of museums, nonprofits, and academic institutions hosted 26 sister events celebrating conservation successes and inspiring positive change.

Global in both its intellectual reach and its associated events, the Summit was also rather audacious in its planning: Earth Optimism was committed to, and scheduled, scarcely a year before Earth Day 2017, one output of a series of key meetings of the newly minted Smithsonianwide "Conservation Commons" initiative. The Commons itself is a pan-Institutional

collaborative endeavor dedicated to bringing together Smithsonian units, Smithsonian researchers, and their worldwide collaborators to tackle complex conservation problems in dimensions up to and including on the global scale. By late 2015, the Commons had advanced four foundational focal areas. By mid-2016, Earth Optimism had become the chosen vehicle for forward movement on the Changing Human Attitudes focal area. By design, the Summit also served as the inaugural event for publicly "launching" the Commons. Also by intention, the three other focal areas, Biodiversity Friendly Food, Working Land and Seascapes, and Movement of Life, were featured significantly among the topic matter of the Summit's three days of plenaries, deep-dive sessions, and workshops.

Historians of science who care to view the large portfolio of Summit video offerings will find some excellent background and content material for a range of university and secondary-school courses, and potentially for their own research, as well. An example: a consortium of colleagues at four Virginia universities are developing an undergraduate/graduate "Virginia Food Systems Leadership Institute" course. We're offering this two-week course in June 2018, at the Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation in Front Royal, Virginia, followed up by two-week, onsite-practicum projects at each of the

four partner universities. As of July, these Earth Optimism talks and panels (produced by Nalu Creative Productions) were all up on the web.

Reviewing these, already my colleagues and I have identified about 25 local, regional, and international narratives we may draw upon for either background information or curriculum content. Interactions among science, sustainability, biodiversity, and human systems are apparent in all the stories these talks tell. From our vantage, the "local" category includes a presentation at the New Foods session by Sperryville, Virginia farmer Rachel Bynum, focused on rebuilding soil health at Waterpenny Farm, a twenty-acre vegetable farm she and her husband, Eric Plaksin, operate on leased land. It's a 40-year leasehold that they carefully worked out with an enthusiastic landlord over a 2-year period in the mid-1990s. That innovative, and now locally replicated, secure land tenure arrangement allowed Rachel and Eric to start farming, and start a family, twenty years ago in a county whose land values (though evidently not its actual soil value) rendered it otherwise unapproachable for interested young farmers like them. Today they are reaping not only 28 varieties of heirloom and heirloom-hybrid tomatoes, but also beautiful soil unimagined by most in the county twenty years ago.

Regional: Young kelp farmer Sarah Redmond's presentation in the *Green Farming, Blue Fishing* 

panel was especially memorable to me. That's not only because I'm a longtime seaweed eater, but also because Sarah's narrative offered such cogent reflections about capacity development and knowledge adaptation and transfer. When Sarah couldn't find the training she sought, to learn to grow and harvest seaweed, she took the academic training that she could find—in fish aquaculture and marine botany—worked it through again at NOAA's Maine Sea Grant program, as a farmer, researcher, educator, and research specialist from 2012-2016, and transformed it into the founding and management of Sorrento Seaweed, a cuttingedge (at least for the United States) seaweed farming enterprise in Maine. Her work, as the Earth Optimism website declares, has "inspired a domestic seaweed revival."

International: among the speakers at Friday's USAID-sponsored deep dive, *The Wild Table: Fish, Forests, and Food Security*, was Terry Sunderland, Principal Scientist at CIFOR, the Centre for International Forestry Research. Based at CIFOR since 2006, he has led the development of a program of work on forests and food security, today fully integrated into CIFOR's strategy under the research theme, "Sustainable Landscapes and Food Systems," and chairs an expert panel in the UN system's Committee on World Food Security.

Sunderland's talk focused on the critical role that wild fish and forests play in contributing to food security and resilience. Sunderland and fellow panelists, Nygiel Armada, Chief of Party of the Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries (ECOFISH) Project, Kelsey Evezich, Conservation Technology Project Lead at Duke University, and journalist Simran Sethi, addressed what they each knew, and found encouraging, about innovative approaches and successes in integrating biodiversity conservation and food security...and "about how we can save foods by savoring them."



Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson (right), former President of Iceland (1996-2016), who now serves as the Chair of the Arctic Circle Assembly, in an onstage conversation at the 2017 Earth Optimism Summit, with Summit Co-Chair, Steven Monfort, Director of the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute. *Photo credit: Ronda Ann Gregorio* 

Similarly, a host of other "change makers and innovators" shared, in their presentations and in follow-on discussions, story after story in their chosen fields and topics of study, mapping Earth-Optimistic paths and way-stations. These are variously focused on—to name only a few more of what you'll find in the recordings—saving and reintroducing wildlife and wild plant species; creating and enacting the conditions requisite for biodiverse and sustainable cities, from initial design to massive human-waste recuperation; tracking animal migrations and other movements of life around our planet; implementing state-of-art DNA-based tools for combatting poaching and curtailing disruptive invasive species; restoring big-city harbor oyster reefs; or pioneering coral cryopreservation.

Collectively, these stories allow us to reflect on the power of innovation, and the value of keeping that quality relative in its power. Engaging "radical innovation" in addressing environmental challenges, though appealing to many would-be world-savers, may not always be the best approach. Cumulatively, these narratives indicate that, most often, synthesizing "novel" elements with tried and tested approaches and mechanisms will likely best allow for replicability, scalability, and affordability of more success stories and Optimism for Planet Earth.

### **Further Resources:**

- The Earth Optimism website homepage has a direct link to the full collection of Summit videos; or you can access them at the livestream address: https://earthoptimism.si.edu/live-stream/. Other useful links within the Earth Optimism website include the 2017 Earth Optimism Summit Program; a linked listing of all Earth Optimism Summit 2017 Speakers; and a list with web links of ~20 simultaneous Sister Events EO 2017. A new site following on the 2017 London sister event is: https://conservationoptimism.com/
- The Earth Optimism exhibit curated by Smithsonian Institutional Historians Pam Henson and Lisa Fthenakis, *Environmental Research to Action at the Smithsonian*, 1846 is largely captured in this well-illustrated *Smithsonian Insider* online article by Becky Haberacker, written in the format of an interview with longtime HSS member Henson: The Smithsonian's History is Right in Line with Earth Optimism
- Mongabay highlighted the Conservation Comics from the Summit: Conservation Comics to the Rescue. See also https://earthoptimism.si.edu/comic/

• Nancy Knowlton, Sant Chair for Marine Science at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) and co-Chair of the Earth Optimism 2017 Summit, published a commentary piece about its origins and aims in the "World View" section of Nature (v.544, 20 April 2017, p. 271). This includes a description of the "Ocean Optimism" Twitter campaign she and colleagues started in 2014. For those seeking examples of conservation success stories, Nancy suggests one of the best routes is to search Twitter for #OceanOptimism or #EarthOptimism. Nancy also co-authored an article with NMNH colleague Gary Krupnick, "Earth Optimism: Success Stories in Plant Conservation," (Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 102:331-340) published on 11 August 2017.

• Also at Smithsonian Insider are several feature articles about the Summit and related research: http://insider.si.edu/?s=Earth+Optimism. From Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama, STRI News May 19, 2017, bilingual illustrated coverage of the Summit. And an article by Secretary Skorton in the Smithsonian Torch: http://www.etorch.org/2017/04/the-argument-forenvironmental-optimism/

### From ASU to HKU: My Academic Job-Search

by Christine Yi Lai Luk (University of Hong Kong)

[Editor's Note: After hearing about Christine's journey in finding a position in the history of science (over a delightful breakfast in Rio de Janeiro), I invited her to write about her experience for the HSS Newsletter. I plan to print more such journeys in future newsletters.]

In June 2015, I came back to Hong Kong, not just to spend the summer, but to remain for good. Since completing my PhD at Arizona State University (ASU) the previous summer, I, like many new graduates, had been looking for jobs all over the world. I taught at ASU as an adjunct for one semester, but after that ended in December, I had no jobs lined up. As joblessness and visa constraints pushed me to leave the US, my familial support

and recruitment opportunities lured me homewards.

Today, I am writing as a postdoctoral fellow from the University of Hong Kong (HKU), the most prestigious university in my home town. Although my story is unconventional, I hope my experience could shed some light for new PhDs in the history of science and the humanities in general.

My road to Hong Kong was paved with uncertainty and fortuity. During my six-year academic sojourn at ASU, I had no intention of returning to Hong Kong, because my area of specialty—the history of science in modern China—simply did not align with the hiring

needs of Hong Kong (at least in my perception). Before coming to ASU, I did my bachelor's and two master's degrees at Hong Kong's universities, which



convinced me that I knew Hong Kong well. Because of this assumed knowledge of my home town, I felt nervous and distressed about being unemployed in the US.

In addition to the financial pressure and the anxiety of unemployment, international

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### From ASU to HKU, cont.

students like me also face the extra burden imposed by our visa situation. My F-1 student visa expired the day I received my diploma, but I could apply for a twelve-month optional practical training (OPT) permit, with a further one month to prepare for moving out of the country. Usually, December is the busiest month in the academic hiring season. It is around that time of the year when candidates begin to receive requests for interviews and campus visits.

In contrast, my job search that year yielded no results—no phone calls, no emails, nothing.

I had no one to blame but myself. A few months before December, I was completely occupied with teaching an upper-level undergraduate course by myself. Since I had no independent teaching experience prior to that fall semester, I spent nearly every waking hour preparing for the class and worrying whether I could make it to the end of the semester. When December approached, I was so happy to see the class coming to an end that I forgot there was no job waiting for me. After I turned in the final grades in mid-December, I started to worry about my next step. Adding to my difficult circumstances was the unforeseen dissolution of a two-year romantic relationship. As it turned out, I was ill-prepared for both the job market and the dating market.

I knew nothing would go differently unless I genuinely made a fresh start. So I set new personal and professional goals as my new year's resolutions. Getting a job was, of course a professional priority, but was that really my personal goal? Sure, I needed a job, but that's not why I came to ASU in the first place. Although I had other admissions offers back then, I chose ASU primarily because of the world-class scholarship and the transdisciplinary environment. Above all, I turned down another more prestigious school for ASU because I was so impressed with the scholarly writings produced by some ASU faculty members. I never knew academic articles could be written in such a fun and engaging manner. Clear, creative, and compelling texts are not just eye-opening but mesmerizing to a nonnative English speaker like me.

After taking some time to rethink and reflect, I resolved to put all my efforts into the one task that I considered the most important: writing. I spent the first half of 2015 writing and revising daily. I worked on a revise-andresubmit article and re-submitted within a month; I wrote up a new article, from scratch to submission, in less than three months; and more importantly, I published a monograph and saw it to publication before I packed my bags to return to Hong Kong.

I didn't know what awaited me in Hong Kong other than my supportive parents, but I remember feeling more confident and less stressed when I boarded the plane. It wasn't because I was confident about the future. After six years away from Hong Kong, I hardly knew a thing about the local job market. My confidence sprang from focusing on doing the single most important thing in my life. Of course, I know that writing and publication does not necessarily lead to a job offer, but the time I spent on pursuing and perfecting academic writings illuminated what really mattered to me. The act of writing and revising and re-writing, though boring and repetitive at times, validates my life and makes me happy. It is the kind of love that Erich Fromm so powerfully described in his 1956 book, The Art of Loving. Overflowing with the joy of giving, I felt alive and hopeful about returning to Hong Kong, even without a job offer.

In pre-modern China, the imperial court would send new officials to serve at provinces other than their home provinces to avoid abuses of power based on pre-existing networks of connections. This fact from China's past sparks speculation on the motives of my relocation. I have been asked on more than one occasion whether my current HKU position

### From ASU to HKU, cont.

was a pre-meditated arrangement exploiting my Hong Kong-based family connections and other guanxi factors. I wish it was that simple. Hong Kong consistently ranks as one of the most transparent and corruption-free cities in the world. Furthermore, I do not come from an elite family with ready access to interpersonal and social resources. In fact, my prior connection with Hong Kong has no correlation with my existing employment at HKU.

It all began with a job advertisement I saw the following July about a tenure-track assistant professor opening in the humanities of science and technology. I applied, but secretly I knew the chance of getting shortlisted for such a competitive position was slim, not least because Hong Kong is a status-conscious society—a money-oriented, fame-obsessed urban jungle. In academia, it means an esteemed university like HKU almost always pursues Ivy Leaguers. Although people who know my field recognize ASU as a renowned research university, the school as a whole simply does not command respect like Harvard or Princeton. I Googled the hiring department, a place called "the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences," and found that nearly all employees working as postdoctoral fellows or research assistant professors held doctorates from

Harvard, Cornell, or Yale. It dawned on me that I stood no chance of entering such a place, and I expected my application be dropped immediately.

I was very surprised when I received a followup email from HKU in September asking for a Skype interview. "What a good chance to practice Skype interviews and prepare for rejection!" I thought. After all, I had only had one previous Skype interview, and even though I knew this one would not lead to the next round, I still took it seriously. I familiarized myself with every piece of information I could find about the institution, the search committee, the job description, and practiced speaking about my research and how I am a good fit for the job. The Skype interview lasted for an hour. Based on the smiling faces I saw from the web camera, I knew I had performed quite well. I actually felt a bit sad that I wouldn't see those friendly faces again.

Two days later, I was invited to give a job talk at HKU the following month. It was the first time I had ever been asked to do a job talk, and I had no idea what it meant to present one's research in such a setting, but I was glad to have the opportunity to practice these skills. In November, I gave the job talk, had lunch with faculty members, and visited the campus. When I left HKU, I still could not fathom

what the search committee was thinking. On the one hand, I did my best in front of the audience, and their reactions suggested that they probably liked me; on the other hand, I simply did not believe they genuinely would hire me for such a competitive position. These questions left me sleep-deprived for several nights.

I almost fell out of bed when I picked up the phone three days later. "Hi, I am XXX from HKU and I would like to speak to Dr. Christine Luk." I recognized the voice as a member of the search committee. He told me the search committee had decided to hire another candidate for the AP position, but since the committee was very impressed with my achievements and enthusiasm, they would create a three-year postdoctoral fellowship for me, should I accept their offer. I thanked him for calling me and said I would consider the offer. It was a totally unexpected outcome, breaking the binary of either acceptance or rejection. In the end, I took the offer, because it was the best offer available to me. It only took them three months to file the paperwork and I started to work as a postdoc on the first day of March in 2016.

Although it is just a coincidence that I happened to have landed the right job for me

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### From ASU to HKU, cont.

in my home town, my story of job-hunting contains some lessons other than luck that might be helpful for folks coming out of graduate schools:

- First and foremost, figure out what is truly important to you. In retrospect, spending the final six months on writing was the right strategy for me. From a pragmatic standpoint, writing leads to publications, which one can use to impress search committees. But what is more important is that writing gave me the confidence, because I genuinely believe that writing enriches my life. In comparison, my teaching experience did not really appeal to the search committee. Although I received good teaching evaluations, I think people could tell I simply was not as dedicated to teaching as I was to research and writing, which leads me to my second point.
- Have faith in people's capacity to distinguish the truthful manifestations of commitment from the showy acts of grandiosity. Everyone wants a job, but it is worth taking a step back and thinking about what inspires you the most. After teaching as an adjunct for one semester, I realize that I wanted to write well more than I wanted to teach well. I am eager to learn how to craft my teaching skills, but research and writing form the core of my scholarly identity. If you don't know

- what your personal priority is, it is difficult for the search committee to see where your professional commitment lies.
- Brace yourself for the bumpy road ahead. With all my idealistic advice on truthfulness and what not, I can't conceal the difficulties I faced without a job. I was unemployed for the entire year of 2015, meaning that I had no institutional affiliation, no access to specialized journals and databases, and no office space, which is a huge issue in an ultradense city like Hong Kong. To adapt, I went to a public library to work on my revisions, used online resources like Google Books and Google Scholar for limited access to scholarly materials, and converted my bedroom into a loft bed with a writing desk underneath.
- Be open-minded and willing to embrace change. Just because you thought you *knew* a place in the past doesn't mean you *know it now*. I thought I knew Hong Kong because of my background, but clearly the Hong Kong in my perception is quite different from the *actual* Hong Kong in front of my eyes, which is always in the process of evolving. The same applies to the academic job search. Sometimes the result is neither hire nor fire. In my case, there was a third option out there beyond my imagination.

Since this postdoctoral fellowship is not a permanent offer, I am still on the job market looking for more sustainable jobs. I would be lying if I say I am not aiming at a tenure-track assistant professorship. But I don't base my self-worth on catching the brass ring as such. If I have learned anything from the last two years, it is the importance of staying flexible and preparing for different kinds of work opportunities outside of one's familiar territory, particularly the US.



### Plan Ahead Future HSS Meetings

Toronto, Ontario: 2017, 9-12 Nov.

**Seattle: 2018, 1-4 Nov.** Joint meeting with PSA

Utrecht, The Netherlands: 2019, Early August!

### **Notre Dame Astronomy Workshop**

by Christopher Graney (Jefferson Community & Technical College)

Roughly sixty students and scholars from around the globe convened in northern Indiana this past July for the University of Notre Dame's Thirteenth Biennial History of Astronomy Workshop, or NDXIII. NDXIII took place 5-6 July at Notre Dame, 7 July at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, and 8-9 July again at Notre Dame. The theme of NDXIII was "Models and Mechanisms." Presentations spanned cultures and ages.

A significant portion of NDXIII addressed work from ancient Greece, specifically the Antikythera Mechanism. Dr. Michael Edmunds, emeritus professor at Cardiff University, where he was head of the School of Physics and Astronomy, gave two presentations on this subject: one for a general audience, and one for the more scholarly audience attending NDXIII. Dr. Edmunds, who is chair of the Antikythera Mechanism Research Project, chair of the Astronomical Heritage Committee of the Royal Astronomical Society, and a former member of two UK Research Councils captivated both his general and scholarly audiences at Notre Dame with his discussions. At the Adler, he delighted scholar, student, and layperson alike by portraying Isaac Newton in a short one-man play, "Sir Isaac Remembers...." In this play, an aging "Sir Isaac" regaled his audience with tales of his life and



Workshop attendees on the steps of the Adler Planetarium, Chicago, Illinois. *Photo courtesy of Matt Dowd.* 

the lives of certain acquaintances. These tales were variously full of reminiscing, grousing, and gloating, with the amount of each depending on the particulars of the tale.

The day at the Adler also included several hours of free time (a trip to the Adler has been a regular feature of these Notre Dame workshops for many years). This allowed those attending NDXIII to learn more about the Adler's substantial collection of resources and artifacts related to the

history of astronomy, to take in a planetarium show, or to explore the Adler's many exhibits that treat the history of astronomy and of space exploration. If desired, an NDXIII attendee could also make a complete break and walk along the shore of Lake Michigan: the weather was good and attendees were treated to beautiful views of the Lake and of the Chicago skyline.

### **Notre Dame Astronomy** Workshop, cont.

Those attending NDXIII were also treated to other excellent scholarly presentations. A complete list of titles and abstracts is available at <a href="https://www3.nd.edu/~histast/">https://www3.nd.edu/~histast/</a> workshops/2017ndxiii/abstracts. Presenters hailed from several countries in Europe and in the Americas. Most of these presentations were followed by substantial rounds of questions and discussion, because both those chairing the presentations and the presenters themselves stuck to the allotted times. The Biennial History of Astronomy Workshops always feature busy days—between presentations, food, opportunities for socialization, and other activities (including some observing through the telescope at the University of Notre Dame's observatory), attendees are kept busy from morning to well after the sun sets. Thus students and scholars leaving NDXIII on the afternoon of 9 July went away having been exposed to many new ideas and much collegiality.

Planning has begun for the University of Notre Dame Fourteenth Biennial History of Astronomy Workshop, or NDXIV, taking place 19-23 June 2019. Whether you are student or scholar or simply interested in astronomy, mark it on your calendar.

History of Science Society Newsletter

### The "March for Science"

by Adam Shapiro (Birkbeck-University of London)

On 22 April this year, close to a million people participated in the worldwide event known as the "March for Science." In terms of the number of people involved, the science march might be the largest event in the history of science. Many of us may disagree with this description, depending on how we want to define both "science" and "event." But while fixation on crowd size is a hallmark of the current political climate in Washington, DC, where the "main" science march took place, for historians of science the science march has importance beyond its mere numbers. The science march is not the same kind of science event that the publication of the Origin of Species, or the discovery of gravitational waves is, but its importance is found in how it reflects on the interactions among scientific practitioners, science enthusiasts and allies, and state entities and policymakers.

It is too soon to answer historical questions about the effects of the march on scientific practice, or whether or not the march reflects a significant change in the relationship between scientific practitioners and the wider public. But as historians we can already make efforts to understand the social, political, and personal factors that led a group of organizers, marchers, and critics to create this massive science spectacle.

To that end, I began conducting oral history interviews with organizers of the DC march and several satellite marches, march participants, and critics, starting in early March and continuing after the march took place. These interviews (approximately 70 so far) mostly conducted via Skype or telephone, are going to be archived and transcribed by the **Chemical Heritage** Foundation's Center for Oral History. Once processed, they will be a resource that does not represent a complete account of the march, but they do sample some of the diversity of opinions about what it means to act "for science." In many cases they also provide a snapshot of the everyday life of scientists and science allies for whom the march was a moment of confluence. Ideally, this will become an archive that speaks not just to the march event itself, but also to the wider nature of science at this moment in history.

It has been widely reported that the march began with a "throwaway comment" made on Reddit saying that there needed to be a "Scientists' March on Washington" in response to news that federal websites were removing references to climate change. I have interviewed the person who posted that comment, as well as several other people involved in the first few days of planning. This origin story has a certain dramatic cachet, reinforcing the idea that the march was a totally

### The "March for Science," cont.

sui generis event born out of grassroot frustration with the Trump administration. It emphasizes the contingent nature of a history that implies that the march would not have happened at all were it not for one person happening upon that comment and then being inspired.

But there are additional origin stories that explain how several people connected on a variety of social media and began to discuss different forms of science-led activism that coalesced into the science march. Interviews with many of the march's early organizers, including some who did not remain part of the march organization, reveal a more robust origin story. This is not to suggest that something like a science march was inevitable, but that historical cause and effect comes on a spectrum between irresistible social forces and want-of-a-nail style accidents.

During the three months between the start of march organizing and the march itself, the science march organizers encountered a variety of internal and external challenges. Several of these revolved around questions of diversity and inclusion in both the execution of the march as an event and in the expression of goals and values of the march. For many involved in the march, supporting science was inseparable from supporting the people who conduct science. Whereas many people were concerned about

risks to federal funding, interference in STEM education, and the continued legality of some kinds of biomedical research, some march organizers (and critics) also observed that many scientists are affected by changes to immigration policy, are at risk of discrimination or harassment based on race, gender, or disability status; or are concerned with the historical and contemporary use of scientific research to justify or exacerbate social injustice. Discussion over how much the science march should address these facts became subsumed under a larger rhetoric over whether or not science was "political."

To people working in the history of science, there are a few among us who would still argue that science is not "political" and is simply a bias-free process of discovering more and more value-neutral facts about nature. Science has always been political. But, in part, the debate over changes to the march's diversity statements reflected several different meanings of the word "political." For some people, "not political" was framed as not partisan (and as non-profit organizations became supporters of the march, the need to avoid explicitly partisan advocacy became part of the professionalization of the march itself.) In other instances, the concerns of underrepresented minorities in sciences was cast as "political" while advocacy of a status quo that contributes to underrepresentation was not. In

part, this issue became a proxy for an even wider discussion of what the "science" was that people were supporting.

There is an important story to be told about how the march became professionalized and how those in charge shaped its identity for itself. But the story of the event is not contained by its organizers and institutional affiliates. I interviewed several organizers of satellite marches, in the US and overseas, many of whom operated with substantial autonomy. I also spoke to several people who had no hand in organizing either the main march or a local one, but who planned to attend one. What the act of marching meant to these people, what it meant to marchers to support science, was a varied and fascinating mix of ideas. Any public spectacle quickly evolves into an event whose meaning and purpose is reinterpreted and remade by its participants. The science march, perhaps because people agreed to have it before they even agreed what it was about, exemplifies this.

In a year that has seen political and social norms and conventional wisdom upturned across the globe, it is uncertain where science and its history will fit into the picture. My hope is that recording some of the biggest event in science's history in nearly-real time will give us some new data to help address that challenge.

### NASA in the "Long" Civil Rights Movement Symposium

by Brian C. Odom, NASA

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center and the University of Alabama, Huntsville History Department hosted the "NASA in the 'Long' Civil Rights Movement" symposium earlier this year. The event was held 16-17 March at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama and included twenty-two presentations on a wide range of topics addressing issues of race, gender, and labor as they related to the space program during the period of the Civil Rights Movement in the US. The goal of this symposium was to provide more context for the voices and stories and, subsequently, develop a better understanding, of the intersection of NASA and the Civil Rights Movement. The concept of a "long" Civil Rights Movement was drawn from Jacquelyn Dowd Hall's essay, "The Long Civil Rights Movement and the Political Uses of the Past," which extended the chronological scope of the Movement.

The presentations were stimulating and incredibly diverse in topical and geographic scope. Dr. Brenda Plummer (University of Wisconsin, Madison) gave an enlightening talk on the "intersection of the struggle for racial equality and aerospace exploration, as both constituted potent narratives of freedom in the American imaginary." Dr. Plummer disputed the assumption that NASA was an "instrument of modernization" that was "implicitly allied

with the Civil Rights Movement." NASA Chief Historian, Dr. Bill Barry, presented an overview of how the US's struggle over civil rights and the space program was viewed—and used—by the Soviet Union, and National Air and Space Museum curator Dr. Cathleen Lewis explored how this conflict reemerged in the 1980s with the race between the US and the Soviet Union to place the first person of color into space.

Several of the papers took a comparative approach. Tim Pennycuff (University of Alabama at Birmingham) detailed how massive amounts of federal funds pouring into Birmingham for research, health training, and medical treatment (like the funding that would later arrive with the Apollo Program) provided both a justification and a mandate for integration at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, while Marsha Freeman examined earlier efforts at desegregation in the region by the Tennessee Valley Authority. Dr. Matthew Downs (University of Mobile) argued that in Huntsville, civic and business leaders moderated their stance on desegregation and "accommodated the forces of change" out of economic necessity. A final panel discussion examined ways those engaged in public history can create more inclusive narratives and collections going forward. In his talk, "And Where Do We Go from Here? Ensuring the Past and Future History of Space," Dr.

Jonathan Coopersmith (Texas A&M University) highlighted the problematic aspects of locating and preserving materials generated by minority movements.

The symposium was open to the public, which led to many welcome and productive conversations on a difficult topic. The interplay between the audience and panelists created a forum for drawing parallels between the era of the Civil Rights Movement and current discussions of equal employment in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) fields. Veronica Henderson, a symposium moderator and interim Head Archivist at Alabama A&M University, one of the US's Historically Black Colleges and Universities, commented that, "As historians, we are able to add layers to the conversation, to connect the dots. Having historians get together and relate the different stories to a point in history, we can uncover more. We can explore things not previously thought about or considered, and putting these stories into context allows us to see things from a different point of view." With the recent interest in stories like those of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, as portrayed in the film Hidden Figures, it is hoped that we can continue to add new voices and greater historical context to such a critical topic.

# Member News

Jay "Gar" Allen (Washington University, emeritus) and his long-standing co-author, Jeffrey J.W. Baker have published a new text, Scientific Process and Social Issues in Biology Education (Springer, 2017), aimed at students and others interested in how science works conceptually and operationally (through experimental design and application). The text uses a series of case studies, ranging from mass extinction of the dinosaurs to the discovery of Nerve Growth Factor (NGF), to illustrate the various processes of science as a human creative activity. It also includes an appendix on statistical methods in biology. The book marks the fiftieth anniversary of their first textbook, The Study of Biology (Addison-Wesley, 1967). In September Gar is giving a series of lectures at the School of Life Sciences at Biejing University, based on topics in the history of genetics, embryology, and eugenics. And now that he is retired, he is able to devote the time necessary to finish a book on the history of genetics in the twentieth century, which attempts to place the field in its social and especially economic context.

Ronald S. Calinger's (Catholic University of America) book review of Johan C.-E. Sten, A Comet of the Enlightenment: Anders Johann Lexell's Life and Discoveries in The Mathematical Intelligencer, is now available online.

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**Peter Collopy** (Cal Tech) was named University Archivist at the California Institute of Technology.

Surekha Davies (Western Connecticut State University) will be a Mellon Longterm Fellow at the Folger Shakespeare Library in 2017-18, where she will be working on her second book project, Collecting Artifacts in the Age of Empire.

**Aileen Fyfe** (University of St. Andrews) has been promoted to full Professor. She is the lead author on a briefing paper on the recent history of scholarly publishing, which she encourages all HSS members to read. It is titled "Untangling Academic Publishing: A History of the Relationship between Commercial Interests, Academic Prestige and the Circulation of Research"; it launched at the British Academy in May, and can be read via open access at https:// zenodo.org/record/546100

Klaus Hentschel (Director of the Section for History of Science and Technology GNT, Universität Stuttgart) and his team have been awarded the Neu Whitrow-Prize of the Commission on Bibliography and Documentation of the International Union for the History of Science and Technology, Division for the History of Science, during the 25th International Congress for the History of Science and Technology in Rio de Janeiro in late July 2017, for the Stuttgart-based "Database of Scientific Illustrators 1450-1950" (DSI). The DSI is freely available at www.uni-stuttgart. de/hi/gnt/dsi and currently lists around 11,650 scientific illustrators (10% of which are women) from more than 100 countries, who were active between 1450 and 1950 in the fields of natural history, geology, botany, zoology, biology, medicine, astronomy, chemistry, physics, and in some areas of technology, also listing their relatives, their regions of activity, techniques, clients, secondary publications, archival sources, and more. Further information can be found at http://cbd-histsci.org/prizes/second-neuwhitrow-prize-awarded/, www.uni-stuttgart. de/hi/gnt/hentschel and https://www. researchgate.net/profile/Klaus\_Hentschel . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Danian Hu (City College of New York) has organized a special issue of the journal Endeavour on Chinese STM in the Cultural Revolution. Six other colleagues (Western and Chinese) have contributed to this special issue of Endeavour, Volume 41, Issue 3 (September 2017), including HSS members Jia-Chen Fu (Emory University) and Sigrid Schmalzer (University of Massachusetts, Amherst).

Emelin E. Miller (University of Minnesota) is a Newberry Library/Consortium of History of Science, Technology and Medicine Fellow for

2017-2018. Her topic is *Empire of Ice: Arctic Natural History and British Visions of Nature,* 1650-1800. A list of other fellows appears at the end of this *Newsletter*.

Londa Schiebinger (Stanford University) has just published her new book: Secret Cures of Slaves: People, Plants, and Medicine in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World with Stanford University Press.

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The Making and Knowing Project, a research cluster of the Center for Science and Society at Columbia University, directed by Pamela H. Smith, is thrilled to welcome Drs. Sophie Pitman and Tillmann Taape, who are joining Dr. Tianna Uchacz (who has just completed her first year) as Making and Knowing Postdoctoral Scholars and Lecturers in History. They will be co-teaching the Project's Laboratory Seminar, "Craft and Science." This course's exploration of craft-making and scientific knowing, along with the other core Making and Knowing activities such as Expert Maker residencies and annual Working Group Meetings, as well as continued funding for the postdoctoral positions, has been made possible through funding from Columbia University, the National Science Foundation, and the Henry Luce Foundation.

**David Stump** (University of San Francisco) has produced a new translation of Henri Poincaré's *Science and Hypothesis* (jointly with M. Frappier and A. Smith), to be published by Bloomsbury.

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Alex Wellerstein, along with two of his colleagues at the Stevens Institute of Technology, Kristyn Karl and Julie Pullen, received an award for \$500,000 from the Carnegie Institute of New York for the Reinventing Civil Defense Project. The project will focus on novel ways to communicate about nuclear risks and to mitigate the consequences of nuclear detonations.

**American Council of Learned Societies Fellowships** 

The 2017 cohort of ACLS fellowship recipients includes several members of the History of Science Society:

**Daniela Bleichmar** (University of Southern California) received the Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship for Recently Tenured Scholars for *The Itinerant Lives of Painted Books: Mexican Codices and Transatlantic Knowledge in the Early Modern World*.

**Sarah Bridger** (California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo) for *Science in the Seventies: Battling for the Soul of a Profession, from the Vietnam War to Star Wars.* 

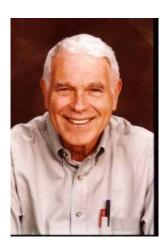
**Matthew Howard Hersch** (Harvard University) for *Abort to Orbit* (Matthew also won the HSS/ NASA History of Space Science Fellowship as a student).

**Evan Ragland** (University of Notre Dame) for Experimental Life: Medicine, Science, and the Emergence of a Culture of Experiment. Evan's Isis article on experimental life appeared in the September 2017 issue.

For an overview of all ACLS fellowship recipients, please refer to the ACLS website. Application deadlines for the upcoming 2017-18 competitions are posted on the website.

# Garland "Gar" Allen wins the HSS's 2017 Sarton Medal

Garland E. Allen, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biology at Washington University in St. Louis, has won the History of Science Society's 2017 Sarton Medal for lifetime scholarly achievement.



Allen is best known for his book Thomas Hunt Morgan: The Man and His Science (Princeton University Press, 1978). His research has long combined history, philosophy, and biology and he is also the co-author of several college biology textbooks, including The Study of Biology and Matter Energy and Life (both via Addison-Wesley), as well as a more recent supplement titled Biology, Scientific Process, and Social Issues (Wiley, 2002) and a follow-up, Scientific Process and Social Issues in Biology Education (Springer, 2017). He is also the author of the highly-regarded monograph Life Science in the Twentieth Century (Cambridge University Press, 1975, 1978). Allen has written dozens of articles over the last 50 years on evolution, heredity, genetics, and eugenics, as well as their attendant political and social issues. He is currently writing a history of genetics in the twentieth century for Harvard University Press, situating the explosive development of the field in its socio-economic context.

In addition to his scholarship, Allen has served on panels and in leadership positions for the National Science Foundation, the Smithsonian Institution, the Hastings Center, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Institutes of Health. Most recently he has been the President of the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB, 2007-2009). He

delivered the Society's annual Sarton Lecture at AAAS in 1998 and served on Council from 1994-1996.

The Sarton Medal will be awarded to Professor Allen at the annual meeting of the History of Science Society, in Toronto, Ontario, 10 November 2017. For past winners of the medal, go to https://hssonline.org/about/honors/ sarton-medal/.

### 2018 AAAS Sarton Lecture

### **Bruce Hunt**

(University of Texas, Austin) will deliver the 2018 George Sarton Memorial Lecture in the History and Philosophy of Science at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The title and



abstract of his talk appears below:

"Imperial Science: Victorian Cable Telegraphy and the Making of 'Maxwell's Equations'"

James Clerk Maxwell's theory of the electromagnetic field is rightly regarded as one of

the greatest achievements of 19th-century science, and "Maxwell's equations" have long held an honored place in textbooks and on T-shirts. How and why did the theory come to be cast into this now canonical form of four vector equations, and how and why was this done not by Maxwell himself in his great Treatise on Electricity and Magnetism, but by Oliver Heaviside in the pages of a London electrical trade journal? The answer, I will argue, lies in the demands and opportunities presented by the global network of submarine telegraph cables, one of the characteristic technologies of the British Empire in the second half of the 19th century. Heaviside, himself a former telegrapher, was steeped in the problems facing cable telegraphy, particularly the distortion or "retardation" signals suffered in transmission. It was Heaviside's search for effective tools with which to tackle such problems that led him to take up Maxwell's theory in the 1870s and to recast it into the four "Maxwell's equations" in 1885.

### International Union of the **History and Philosophy of Science and Technology** (IUHPST) Prizes for Young **Scholars**

The IUHPST's Division of History of Science and Technology recognized distinguished young

scholars at the recent International Congress in Rio de Janeiro. The prize recognizes exceptional dissertation theses (defended in the last four years) from around the world. The HSS would like to recognize and congratulate those of its members who were among the winners and honorable mentions. Prize winners included Layne Karafantis (Johns Hopkins University), Under Control: Constructing the Nerve Centers of the Cold War; Andrew Stuhl (University of Wisconsin, Madison), Empires on Ice: Science, Nature, and the Making of the Modern Arctic; and an honorable mention for Michael Jeremy Barany (Princeton University), Distributions in Postwar Mathematics.

# HSS Bibliographer and the University of Oklahoma

The Department of the History of Science at the University of Oklahoma is pleased to announce that the position of Associate Professor **Stephen Weldon**, the Society Bibliographer, has been converted from a "ranked renewable



term" position to a tenure line. This is an

important, concrete sign of the University's commitment to Dr. Weldon's work and the importance of the *Isis CB*. We are delighted that Dr. Weldon's hard work and creativity in this enterprise has been recognized. The HSS and the University have almost completed another 5-year agreement for OU to continue to host the Bibligrapher's office. The HSS is grateful for the University's support.

# History of Science at the American Historical Association

HSS sponsored three sessions for the AHA conference, to be held in Washington DC, 4-7 January 2018. We were delighted that all three were accepted (it is difficult to land a spot on the AHA program). The sponsored panels appear below. Congratulations to the participants in these sessions!

# Animals in the Early Modern Atlantic World

Chair: Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

"Little More Room Than a Drawing": Flattening Animals and Reconstructing Craft Practice in the British Atlantic, 1740–1820 Whitney Barlow Robles, Harvard University There is the Sea, Vast and Spacious: Slavery, Natural History, and Collections of Marine Life in the 18th-Century British Atlantic

Christopher Blakley, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Horses, Slaves, and Sugar: New England and the 18th-Century Atlantic World

Charlotte Carrington-Farmer, Roger Williams University

Indigenous Natural History in the "Aztec Encyclopedia"

Iris Montero Sobrevilla, Brown University

Comment: Marcy Norton, University of Pennsylvania

# Anatomy and the Construction of Identity

Chair: Karen A. Rader, Virginia Commonwealth University

Joseph Banks and the Skull Trade
Anita Guerrini, Oregon State University

American Fossils: Exhibiting Nature and Nation in New York's Great Dinosaur Hall Alison Laurence, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The Anatomy of Antisemitism: Jews, Cadavers, and the Politics of Medical Discourse in East Central Europe

Natalia Aleksiun, Touro College, Graduate School of Jewish Studies

Comment: Karen A. Rader, Virginia Commonwealth University

### The Emergence of Racial Modernities in the Global South

Chair: Warwick Anderson, University of Sydney

The Chilean Exception: Racial Homogeneity, Mestizaje, and Nationalism Sarah Walsh, University of Lisbon

Stranded on a Strange Shore: Moments in the Formation of Racial Subjectivity in the Pacific Miranda Johnson, University of Sydney

The Blondes of Aituha and Other Stories: The Racialization of Indigenous Traditions in Colonial East Timor

Ricardo Roque, University of Lisbon

Objectivity, Race, and Cold War Social Science: Race Relations in World Perspective Sebastián Gil-Riaño, University of Pennsylvania

Comment: Warwick Anderson, University of Sydney

FELLOWSHIP AND GRANTS

## D. KIM FOUNDATION

### FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND **TECHNOLOGY IN EAST ASIA**

The D. Kim Foundation offers a number of fellowships and grants for the history of science and technology in modern East Asia, with an emphasis on the twentieth century. The Foundation also supports research in related fields such as medicine, public health, mathematics, and comparative studies that include East Asia. We especially welcome applications from graduate students and young scholars.



Trustees of the D. Kim Foundation (from left to right): Takehiko Hashimoto, Stuart W. Leslie, Dagmar Schäfer, Angela K. C. Leung, Suzanne Moon, Christopher Cullen, Dong-Won Kim, Shigehisa Kuriyama

The Foundation provides postdoctoral and dissertation fellowships, visiting studentships, research and travel grants, and conference/workshop grants. Committed to global outreach, the Foundation encourages applications from students and scholars from non-US universities. The application deadline for fellowships and grants is December 1, 2017. Deadline for conference/ workshop grants is December 1, 2017 or May 1, 2018.

For details and further information, including lists of past and current fellowship recipients, please visit our website,

www.dkimfoundation.org

# In Memoriam

### **John Chynoweth Burnham**

14 July 1929 — 12 May 2017

John Burnham was best known for his work in the history of medicine, the history of psychiatry and psychoanalysis, and sociocultural history, particularly in the United States. He published ten books and edited four more. Two of the books won



prizes. He also greatly influenced scholarship with more than eighty articles, many of which were reprinted in other places—some more than once.

His education spanned the US. He graduated from West Seattle High School, a big-city public school where he obtained an extraordinary education, and then went on to Stanford University on a scholarship, took a master's degree in history at the University of Wisconsin, and then returned to Stanford, where he took a PhD in history in 1958. Meanwhile, he began his full-time teaching at Stanford and at Claremont Men's College. He then spent three years as a postdoctoral fellow of the Foundations' Fund for Research in Psychiatry.

Following study at Johns Hopkins and Chicago as a postdoctoral fellow, he spent more than two years attached to the research unit of the Austen Riggs Center in Stockbridge, MA. After two years as assistant professor of history at San Francisco State University, he moved to The Ohio State University, where he served on the faculty from 1963 to 2002. Over the years, he taught thousands of students at Ohio State at every level, from first-year to graduate. He also taught postdoctoral resident physicians in the Department of Psychiatry. Awarded the honorary title of Research Professor of History when he became emeritus, he spent 2002-2003 as Bye-Fellow in Robinson College at the University of Cambridge in England. Thereafter he was associated with the Medical Heritage Center at Ohio State. He also served as a Senior Fulbright Lecturer in Australia in 1967 at the University of Melbourne and in 1973 at the Universities of Tasmania and New England. In 1999 he taught for a term as a distinguished foreign visiting professor at the University of Sydney in Australia. Over the years, he gave invited lectures not only in North America and Australia but in Japan and all over Europe. At Ohio State, he was recognized with a Distinguished Scholar Award, and a library purchase fund and an endowed lecture series were named in his honor. He was a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and a Fellow of the American Association for

the Advancement of Science. Division 26 of the American Psychological Association presented him with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his leadership in the history of psychology. He also received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the American Association for the History of Medicine in 2014. He held committee appointments in many national and international organizations and was president of the Midwest Junto of the History of Science and, in 1990-1992, president of the American Association for the History of Medicine. Beyond the formal record, John served as a powerful influence among his colleagues to uphold disciplinary standards in history writing, especially in the difficult areas of the history of science and medicine and cultural history. He was an informal mentor to many graduate students and young historians from all over the United States and many other countries, some briefly, some for a lifetime, and many just through his unacknowledged peer reviewing and editing. He formally served as editor of the Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences from 1997 to 2000.

His publications tended to have one consistent theme: he pioneered many new fields and lines of inquiry and revised old ones. His most striking finding was that, contrary to what propagandists and journalists had written,

American Prohibition on the whole was not a failure but was successful in diminishing the bad social effects of alcoholic beverages. One of his early papers was reprinted several times because it showed how cultural change influenced scientific change in psychiatry and psychology. He wrote the first history of the gasoline tax in the United States, an article that helped set off the field of the history of the automobile. Later he ventured again into the field of history of technology with a masterful history of accident proneness. He was one of the very first to bring the history of sexuality into mainstream history. And he was the first professional historian to work full time on the history of psychiatry. He was particularly effective in discerning eras in the history of medicine of the twentieth century, most recently in a master narrative and probably his most influential book was a history of popularizing science and health care in the United States, Healthcare in America: A History, in which he used social science as well as other sources to explain the role of science in broader American history. The book which had the largest circulation was a heavily revisionist account of Bad Habit: Drinking, Smoking, Gambling, Taking Drugs, Sexual Misbehavior, and Swearing in American History. At the end of his career, he wrote a synthesis that established a new narrative and reconceptualization of the entire field of the history of American health care.

John Burnham was a historian's historian. His last major paper, "The Death of the Sick Role," re-set the chronology of the field of the recent history of medicine. And just before that, he had named a new phase in the scholarship in another field, "The New Freud Studies." He continued to publish after his retirement and to mentor younger scholars. His work inspired the HSS's Forum for History of Human Science to establish the John C. Burnham Early Career Award, which recognizes outstanding manuscripts written by early-career scholars. See <a href="http://fhhs.org/awards/">http://fhhs.org/awards/</a>.

Excerpts taken from *The Columbus Dispatch* from May 14 to May 15, 2017.

### Frederick B. Churchill

14 December 1932 - 22 July 2017

We were sorry to learn of Fred Churchill's death. An In Memoriam piece will appear in the January *Newsletter*.



### **Robert S. Cohen**

18 February 1932 — 19 June 2017

Although not a historian of science, Robert (Bob) Cohen exerted enormous influence in HPS. A beautiful remembrance of him was penned by Don Howard and Alisa Bokulich.



### **Ann Johnson**

28 May 1965 — 11 December 2016

(By an Ann Johnson Community\*)

Ann Johnson, Associate Professor of Science and Technology Studies at Cornell University, passed away in Ithaca on December 11, 2016. She was 51. I had known Ann through chance meetings at annual conferences for years and we had overlapped



in graduate school at Princeton, although she had already taken up an instructorship at Fordham University when I arrived. We had bonded via Facebook, where both of us spent far too much time, and where Ann would mix jokes and updates with her sister, Katie Lewandowski, with ongoing discussions concerning German soccer and questions both deep and frivolous about the history and philosophy of science, technology, and medicine. She became my colleague at Cornell in July 2015, and we continued to trade comments via Messenger, even as our offices were only yards apart. I have re-read those threads over the past few months, realizing that I had come to imagine a future in our department that had

Ann at its center. I told her once that my favorite people took their work, but not themselves, seriously. Ann fit that description perfectly, and the months since her death have only confirmed how profound her loss—as a colleague and a friend—has been and continues to be.

Ann's path to the history of science and technology was more circuitous than many. She'd been a scholar-athlete in high-school, holding state titles in New Jersey in discus and shot put. That fact would surprise no one who had seen Ann powering up hills on her bicycle in Ithaca or Columbia in all kinds of weather. She completed a Bachelor's degree at the College of William and Mary in 1986, with departmental honors in history and theatre and continued with the latter with an MFA in the Department of Technical Design and Production at Yale's School of Drama in 1990. Ann had done some scenic design as an undergraduate, and her masters' work concentrated on structural engineering and the construction of scenic designs for the stage. One can see the seeds of her later work in these early studies. In her third year, she taught a class that introduced students to a piece of engineering software, named Algor, for finite element analysis. Students tended to want to simply plug numbers in to get a result, but the real task, of course, was identifying and then choosing

among a myriad of possible options, given the restrictions of time, materials, and cost. From 1990 to 1995 she was an Assistant Professor of Theatre Technology at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Having explored one half of her undergraduate interests, Ann turned back to the second history—for her PhD, which she completed at Princeton in 2000. In reply to a question about his memories with Ann in graduate school, David Brock observed that coming up with a single story seemed impossible. "Slowly," he wrote, "it has dawned on me that maybe this problem is actually the thing. For me, Ann's real mode was making and working in communities, small and larger. Ann was truly curious, and was seriously into, but not overly serious in manner, getting at problems that interested her. And she was easily interested. Things far and wide caught her attention, and she would dig into them. Often for years. And the way she would dig into them was gathering with others by joining groups what were already out there, or helping to build new groups.... I guess it isn't surprising she thought a lot about 'knowledge communities.'" Those communities were the subject of her thesis, "Engineering Culture and the Production of Knowledge: An Intellectual History of Anti-Lock Braking Systems," completed under Michael Mahoney.

That technology constitutes a form of knowledge was among the ideas that shaped the very foundation of Ann's work on engineering. Heidi Voskuhl remembered that both her first conversation with Ann (sometime in the winter of 2004) and their last one (in 2016, in a restaurant near Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia) revolved around this, as did everyone in between. Ann, Heidi, and others liked to refer to the set of themes and questions they were struggling with as "HPT," in facetious reference to the triedand-tested tradition of HPS. In fact, a great deal of Ann's reflections (such as in her widely-read review essay in *Perspectives on Science* from 2005) was to find ways of making explicit how historians and philosophers of technology handle problems of engineering knowledge vis-à-vis the ways that historians of science handle scientific knowledge.

In her dissertation and the book that came out of it, Ann picked up ideas from the 1970s in the social history of American engineering by Edward Layton and others and merged them with ideas from Science Studies from the 80s and 90s, advancing the notion of knowledge communities and giving it concrete and specific contours in the study of anti-lock braking technologies. Together with Gary Downey and others, Ann subsequently re-founded and revitalized the sub-discipline engineering studies and served as founding associate editor of the

periodical *Engineering Studies*, which published its first issue in 2009.

Ann had been an instructor in the History Department at Fordham from 1997 to 1999 and a visiting Instructor at the Yale School of Drama from 1999-2000 as she worked on her dissertation. In 2000 she became an Assistant Professor at Fordham, a position she held until 2004, with a year in that period spent as a Fellow at the Charles Warren Center for the Study of American History at Harvard University. Eclectic in her interests before taking up the history of science and technology, that eclecticism and breadth of interest became a mark of Ann's research. During her years at Fordham she published material deriving from her dissertation on Anti-Lock Brakes, on the Cold-War history of finite element analysis (the method at the core of her engineering class at Yale), and on the history of nanotechnology. Ann's interest in the science of small, Patrick McCray noted, was fueled with some sizable research grants. Between 2002 and 2005, Ann helped raise over \$2.5 million to start a host of research and education programs that explored the history and societal dimensions of nanoscience at the University of South Carolina In addition to producing more than a score of research articles and conference papers, Ann's initiative helped create an interdisciplinary team of researchers at USC and connected these people with other scholars like Patrick and Cyrus Mody

who led similar efforts at other schools. Ann's interest in topics such as molecular modeling and nano-manufacturing was linked to her interest in the broader topic of "emerging technologies."

This culminated in an international workshop she organized in 2013 with Cyrus and Patrick. Patrick recalled that Ann was adamant about two things: a "no jerks" policy when it came to extending invitations to senior scholars and a commitment to creating a welcoming environment for students and junior researchers. A position paper she wrote helped establish the intellectual agenda of the workshop, which some 40 people attended. Although Ann did not have the opportunity to publish it, this short essay displayed the keen sorts of insights her friends and colleagues came to expect. For example, drawing on classic STS literature, Ann asked "what happens when emerging technologies achieve closure?" Do they stop "emerging?" And what about a technology that seems to emerge more than once? Like the other areas that Ann worked on, her engagement with nanoscience and emerging technologies combined her knowledge about the history of engineering communities with her expertise in ethics and policy making.

In 2004, Ann moved to the University of South Carolina, where she held joint appointments in history and philosophy. She was tenured and promoted to associate professor in 2009. That

same year saw the publication of an issue of Osiris that she co-edited with Carol E. Harrison on National Identity: The Role of Science and Technology. Ann also served on the editorial board of Osiris and as an associate editor of Technology and Culture, yet another symbol of her systematic blending of the history of science and technology. At the memorial held for Ann in Columbia in May 2017 it became clear what a force she had been in her almost dozen years at USC. Both graduate and undergraduate students spoke of her close and careful mentorship and guidance. As Leah McClimans noted, at first meeting, Ann's deadpan humor could be somewhat terrifying, and Ann did not tolerate the pompous or self-aggrandizing well. Yet the flipside of this—as everyone who I spoke to remarked—was that Ann was a fierce advocate for those less confident and less politically savvy than herself. An array of younger faculty spoke of Ann's support during the early, and often later, years of their careers. Conscious of the hurdles that class, race, or gender could impose, Ann lived her politics unostentatiously, both arguing for and working towards parity in faculty meetings and interpersonal interactions. In Heidi's memory, if there was one theme that she and Ann had more discussions about than about the epistemology of engineering, it was about soccer, in particular women's soccer and the feminist politics attached to it. In turn, they

would discuss the feminist politics attached to philosophy, and everything would come full circle. Ann was a philosopher, Heidi writes, but always someone who saw knowledge attached to people, to class, race, gender, to marginalization. Philosophy was for her a way of coming to terms with—and one way of combatting discrimination.

Ann came to Cornell in 2015 and quickly made her mark on her new department. It became something of a running joke that she knew about—and could potentially teach—almost anything. The year before her arrival, she had published a volume co-edited with James Rodger Fleming titled Toxic Airs: Body, Place, Planet in Historical Perspective (2014), a work at the intersection of the history of science, technology, and the environment, Envirotech, and environmental studies more broadly. She continued to collaborate with engineers to identify affordable, environmentally-suitable building materials in Mexico that could better withstand hurricanes and climate change. In her last semester, our "historian of technology" taught a course on the life sciences and society and one on the philosophy of medicine.

Ann was forthright with both her students and her colleagues about her diagnosis, and insisted on teaching right until the end of term, even as treatments and the disease itself took their toll.

It still seems impossible, as I walk past her office, that she's not there for another conversation. Leo Slater, who was a graduate student with Ann at Princeton put it simply: "we are all a little dumber without her around." Perhaps even that might be mitigated by her memory. This year sees the foundation of the Ann Johnson Institute for Science, Technology, and Society at the University of South Carolina, endowed by Ann's parents, Elaine and Jim Johnson, and co-directed by Allison Marsh and Leah McClimans.

Ann is survived by her parents, her sister Katie, her husband, Mark Stevens, and her son, Evan.

\*Doing justice to the breadth of Ann's work requires a range of intellectual capacities that few individuals possess. We hope Ann likes the fact that one more community was called into being to remember her properly. Suman Seth, Patrick McCray, and Heidi Voskuhl wrote the text, with the help of Mark Stevens, David Brock, Allison Marsh, Leah McClimans, Sara Pritchard, and Leo Slater.

### Silvan "Sam" Schweber

10 April 1928 — 14 May 2017

We were saddened by the death of Sam Schweber earlier this year. An In Memoriam piece is underway. Those who knew Sam may be interested in a special gathering to honor his memory, to be held at the HSS meeting in Toronto, on Saturday evening, 11 November 2017. Details will be available in the meeting program.

# News from the Profession

### History of Science, Technology and Medicine 2016-2017 Annual Report Summary

(Prepared for the History of Science Society, by Babak Ashrafi, Executive Director)

The Consortium for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine is an international consortium of educational, cultural, and scientific institutions that promotes public and academic understanding of the history of science, technology, and medicine through public and scholarly programming. Established in 2007 as a regional collaboration of eleven institutions in the Philadelphia area, today, the Consortium includes 23 members throughout the United States as well as in Canada. The History of Science Society joined the Consortium in 2016. This year, CHSTM welcomed two new members: the Society for the History of Technology and the Adler Planetarium in Chicago. SHOT requires no introduction for HSS members. But not everyone may be familiar with the Adler. It is America's oldest planetarium and the only independent planetarium in the world holding significant library and object collections and engaging in science and history research. Prospective fellows or any researcher may search across Consortium book and manuscript collections at our web site: https://www.chstm. org/consortium-special-collections-search-hub. The Consortium's scholarly programming encompasses a research fellowships program and scholarly working groups. In 2016-2017, the Consortium supported twenty fellows from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. These scholars made 60 research trips to library and museum collections of member institutions. The fellowships include one NEH Postdoctoral Fellow, two dissertation fellows, five fellows in residence, and twelve (short-term) research fellows. Topics ranged from American psychical research in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Alicia Puglionesi) to nineteenthcentury Hawai'i' sugar plantations (Lawrence Kessler, CHSTM) to the sulphur industry in Mexico in the mid-late twentieth century (Oscar Moisés Torres Montúfar, El Colegio de México).

In 2017-2018, the largest fellowship class to date is pursuing research on the history of China, Egypt, and India, as well as diverse regions in the United States and transnational areas. These scholars will complete more than fifty research trips at member institutions. As with 2016-2017, the fellowships include one NEH Postdoctoral Fellow, and two dissertation fellows. This year, the Consortium will host six fellows in residence and fund thirteen (short-term) research fellows. Research topics range from textile factories in twentieth-century China (Yuan Yi, Columbia University) to women's higher education in physics (Johanna F. Behrman, Johns Hopkins

University) to Cold War university industrial patronage (Joseph D. Martin, National Science Foundation). More information on past and current fellows can be found here: https://www.chstm.org/fellowships/chstm-fellowships.

Scholarly working groups complement fellows' research. In 2016-2017, working groups met 65 times and included the participation of 220 scholars from 100 different institutions from as far away as Istanbul, Krakow, Sao Paolo, Beijing, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Groups include: Ancient and Medieval Sciences; Biological Sciences; Early Modern Science; Earth and Environmental Sciences; History and Philosophy of Science; Human Sciences; Medicine and Health; Physical Sciences; Science Beyond the West; and Technology. Prospective participants may apply to join via the working group page on our web site, and working group members may participate in person or online. More information on scholarly working groups can be found here: https://www.chstm.org/groups.

The Consortium's public programming encompasses public lectures and discussions, film viewings, and more. These events share the products of scholarship—and spur new conversations—with public and academic audiences. The Consortium uses the history of science to offer broad audiences historical perspectives on pressing contemporary issues. Member institutions in the Philadelphia area have

hosted events as well. Thanks to a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts, this programming will expand in 2017-2020 and will be hosted at member institutions located anywhere.

The Consortium is in the last year of a campaign to establish a \$2,000,000 endowment for its fellowship programs. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the Consortium derived 74% of its income from grants, 22% of its income from membership dues, and 4% of its income from gifts. In that year, 67% of its expenses went toward fellowships, 22% toward administration, 7% toward events, and 4% toward producing online content.

To learn more about and stay abreast of the Consortium's activities, visit our web site and join the mailing list at <a href="https://www.chstm.org/">https://www.chstm.org/</a>. The web site provides a list of upcoming regional and Consortium events, Consortium fellowships information, and working group meeting information.

### **CHSG and Friday Harbor**

The Columbia History of Science Group will hold its annual meeting on beautiful San Juan Island (Washington State) 2-3 March 2018. Erik M. Conway will deliver Friday evening's keynote address. Graduate students, faculty, and independent scholars are all welcome to submit proposals for consideration on Saturday's program (typically 9-11 speakers). Please visit columbiahistoryofsciencegroup.org for more information on the meeting, or to be included in CHSG's mailing list.

### **American Chemical Society, GE Joint Effort Could Broaden Use of Science Emojis**

(The full article can be found on the ACS website.)

For most of us, emojis are a fun way to express ourselves. But for many scientists, these expressive icons are a disappointment because so few of them represent aspects of their daily work lives. That could soon change, however. Nine new science emojis proposed jointly by the American Chemical Society (ACS) and General Electric (GE) are being considered by a technical review board for addition to the hundreds already in use.

"I'm delighted that ACS in collaboration with GE is leading the effort to create science emojis," says ACS Executive Director and CEO Thomas J. Connelly Jr., PhD. "Emojis have become an essential communication tool in today's society, with more than 6 billion emojis and emoticons sent around the world every day on mobile messaging apps. Science emojis would boost—and help demystify—science in modern

conversation, and ACS is committed to ensuring that science and scientists are represented."

The nine proposed emojis are a lab coat, test tube, microbe, petri dish, DNA structure, compass, abacus, fire extinguisher and goggles. They came to life last year during a brainstorming session sponsored by GE and led by ACS staff at Emojicon, a conference in San Francisco devoted to all things emoji. These icons will be evaluated for inclusion as official emojis this fall by the Unicode Consortium, a nonprofit that develops and maintains software standards used internationally. If approved, one or more of them could be rolled out for use in 2018 while the others could begin appearing on phone keyboards in the next few years.

Of the more than 1,300 emojis currently available, fewer than a dozen explicitly represent science. These include a microscope, a telescope, and an alembic (an alchemical still used for distillation). Prior to this joint effort, ACS and GE had each sought to rectify this scarcity in its own way: ACS developed chemojis, a set of chemistry-themed digital stickers, while GE created Emoji Science, an emoji-based science information campaign.

The American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific society, is a not-for-profit organization chartered by the US Congress.

ACS is a global leader in providing access to chemistry-related information and research through its multiple databases, peer-reviewed journals and scientific conferences. ACS does not conduct research, but publishes and publicizes peer-reviewed scientific studies. Its main offices are in Washington, D.C., and Columbus, Ohio.

To automatically receive press releases from the American Chemical Society, contact newsroom@acs.org.

### International Congress on the History of Science and Technology

HSS Director, Jay Malone (right) with Josué Bertolin on the Praia Vermelha campus of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, site of the 25th International Congress of History of Science and Technology. Bertolin was conducting interviews for Brazilian television. He is a student

at Universidade de São Paulo and gave a fascinating talk titled "Science and Faith in Debate: A Brazilian Experience." A report on



the Rio congress will appear in the January *Newsletter*.

### Highlights from the Commission on Women and Gender Studies in History of Science, Technology and Medicine's business meeting in Rio de Janeiro, 27 July 2017

After the President of the Commission, Maria Rentetzi, welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting, Secretary of the Commission, Donald L. Opitz, provided a report on the activities of the Secretary since 2013. Four annual reports were submitted to the DHST (each November), with summaries of Commission activities and financial status. The Secretary created a listserv for the Commission, hosted by DePaul University (USA), and this listserv has improved communications among Commission members. Other developments include the establishment of Facebook and Twitter sites. Although the Commission has a website, it is proposed to develop a new website in the current year. DHST funds have been granted for this purpose. The Secretary also reported on the successes of Commission-sponsored symposia and its "in-between" conference in Prague in 2015,

"Gendering Science: Women and Men Producing Knowledge."

In her President's Report, M. Rentetzi recalled the conditions of her election in 2013 in absentia to underline the constraints on scholars in economically distressed countries like Greece. This situation is a wider phenomenon and limits the ability of Commission members to attend meetings. For this reason, it has been a priority of the Commission to seek new grant funding to support the travel of scholars in financial need. Since becoming President, Rentetzi has sought to attract more young scholars and new ideas to the Commission. One strategy was through the creation of the Agnodike Fellowship. It has also been a Commission priority to attract better geographical representation among its participants and members. There remain gaps in this representation, especially from Africa. Special effort was made to recruit speakers from underrepresented geographical regions to the Commission's 2015 conference in Prague, and through networking one of the plenary speakers was Francisca Nneka Okeke of Nigeria.

The President underscored the importance of communications and social media for the Commission's continued development and vitality. As an example, the symposium, "Revisiting the *Marie Curie Effect*," organized by Isabelle Lémonon for the European Society for History of Science meeting in Prague in 2016,

originated in a post she made to the Facebook page and ideas that circulated on the listserv.

The President offered these recommendations for the Commission's future work:

- 1. Establishment of "Regional Representatives": Europe (2), United States (2), Latin America (2), Asia (2), and Africa (2). The representatives' responsibilities would be to assist in disseminating information about the Commission and its opportunities within their respective regions.
- 2. Éva Katalin Vámos Distinguished Lecture
  - The President recalled the discussion held in Prague during the ESHS meeting, at which the Commission members present supported the establishment of a Distinguished Lecture in the name of the late Éva Katalin Vámos, a Hungarian historian of science who for many years worked at a museum for history of technology in Budapest. Vámos was the second President of the Commission (following Margaret Rossiter). The Commission officers agreed to create parameters for the selection and a call for nominations. Members who are interested in participating in the selection should contact the Secretary. The first Éva Katalin Vámos Distinguished Lecturer will be selected for the 2019 "in-between" meeting.

- 3. The in-between meeting of the Commission will be held in 2019, in Tel-Aviv, with Nurit Kurisch as local host. Once details of the meeting's time and place are secured, a call for suggested conference themes will be sent to the listserv.
- 4. The President encourages Commission members to consider a COST Action application, and other possible grants. COST Action is a European Union grant for networking, e.g., summer schools, exchange visits, travel, conferences, and workshops. Commission officers offered to assist Commission members with applications.
- 5. It is proposed to host a Summer School in Greece on the theme: "gender and digital history of science," perhaps in 2019 in connection with the Tel-Aviv meeting.
- 6. A redesign of the website is proposed, and will be carried out in the upcoming months under the Secretary's initiative.
- 7. A discussion about archiving Commission reports and records took place. Catherine Jami indicated the archive of the DHST in Paris is restrictive. One question is whether the archive should be digital or physical. Past presidents have records that may be combined with other archives, in which case the Commission should have a catalog of where records will be deposited. The DHST

- will update its archive every four years. It's an open question whether Commission records can be included. The issue needs further discussion, especially to identify which records already exist and where.
- Meanwhile, the Secretary will post all public reports and minutes to the new website.
- 8. Rentetzi and Jami presented on the ICSU project, "A Global Approach to the Gender Gap in Mathematical and Natural Sciences: How to Measure It, How to Reduce It?" (The "Gender Gap.") This project includes three objectives: to carry out a global survey to see how the experiences of men and women in the sciences may differ; to carry out a publications analysis; and to create a database of best practices.

CWGS members are invited to submit a list of their publications that relate to the project, so that the Commission can make available its expertise to the project. The Commission might also have the opportunity to contribute directly to the research as participants (e.g., conducting interviews). Jami will inquire if there is funding to support such research. A workshop was held in Paris in June, attended by Jami (representing IUHPST) and Anne-Sophie Godfroy (representing the Commission). Workshops will be held in Taiwan (8-9 Nov.), Bogotá (22-24 Nov.),

and Cape Town (30 Nov. -1 Dec.). Members of the Commission based in these regions are invited to attend the workshops, and if interested should let the Secretary know.

Respectfully submitted by D.L. Opitz (USA) Secretary

# International Society for the History of Medicine

The latest issue of the ISHM Newsletter is now available.

Among the news, you will find an update on the 46th ISHM Congress (Portugal, 2018), and information about conferences, calls for papers, and recent publications relevant to the history of medicine. The countries covered include UK, Italy, France, Chile, USA, Poland, Arab Emirates, Canada, and Argentina. If your country is missing, please send relevant news to Emanuela Appetiti (eappetiti@hotmail.com) so that it will be represented in the next issue!

Inside, you will also find the link to the latest <u>free</u> <u>issue</u> of *Vesalius*, which presents a selection of the papers presented during the 45th Congress in Buenos Aires, in September 2016.

### NEH Announces \$39.3 Million for 245 Humanities Projects Nationwide

Grant Awards Support Local Cultural Organizations, Museums, Archives, Colleges And Universities, State Humanities Councils, And Individual Scholars

This round of funding, NEH's third and last for fiscal year 2017, will support vital research, education, and public programs in the humanities. These peer-reviewed grants were awarded in addition to \$46.1 million in annual operating support provided to the national network of state and local humanities councils during fiscal year 2017. "NEH grants ensure that Americans around the country have the opportunity to engage with our shared cultural heritage," said NEH Acting Chairman Jon Parrish Peede. "From traveling exhibitions and teacher workshops to efforts to preserve local history, these projects demonstrate the power of the humanities to build connections, stimulate discovery, and contribute to vibrant communities."

The following grants (alphabetized by state) may be of interest to readers of the HSS *Newsletter*:

### McCalla Tannehill Historic Ironworks State Park, Alabama

Match: \$150,000 [Creating Humanities

Communities Grants]

Project Director: Phillip Ratliff

### Birmingham Industrial Heritage Trail

The Birmingham Industrial Heritage Trail and a mobile app that will interpret five anchor sites as well as pathways between the sites through audio stories triggered by GPS location. The free app will also allow users to access historic photos, music, and lengthier oral histories to deepen the knowledge about Birmingham's industrial past.

# Anchorage Alaska Association for Historic Preservation

Match: \$60,000 [Creating Humanities

Communities Grants]

Project Director: Katherine Ringsmuth

### Cannery History Project Project

Development of a traveling exhibition and companion book on the lifeways and history of the people associated with the Bristol Bay salmon fishery.

### University of California, Los Angeles

Outright: \$174,314 [Scholarly Editions and

Translations]

Project Director: Olga Yokoyama

A New Translation of Russian Intellectual I. P. Pavlov's Work on Psychology and the History of Science

Preparation for publication of an English translation of 67 essays by the Russian psychologist Ivan Pavlov (1849–1936).

### Tampa University of South Florida

Outright: \$75,000 [Digital Humanities

Advancement Grants]

Project Director: Steven Jones

### Reconstructing the First Humanities Computing Center

The digital recreation of the laboratory of pioneering digital humanities scholar Father Roberto Busa to study the methods used by his team in early computational work with scholarly texts.

# Bloomington Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

Outright: \$330,000 [Scholarly Editions and

Translations]

Project Director: Rega Wood

### Richard Rufus Project

Preparation for print and online publication of 13th-century philosopher Richard Rufus's *In Aristotelis De Anima*, *Scriptumin Metaphysicam Aristotelis*, and Oxford Lectures.

### **Indianapolis Indiana Humanities**

Outright: \$300,000 [Community Conversations]

Project Director: Leah Nahmias

One State/One Story: Frankenstein

Implementation of a statewide, multi-format program that uses the novel Frankenstein to

discuss the impacts of scientific and technological change on human life and society.

### Ames, Iowa Iowa State University

Outright: \$63,113 [Collaborative Research]

Project Director: David Miller

### Revolutions in the History of Early Modern Philosophy and Science

A conference of contributors to The Cambridge History of Philosophy of the Scientific Revolution, at which the contributors will refine their essays for the volume.

# Franklin County, Massachusetts Dean College

*Outright:* \$60,364 [Humanities Initiatives: Community Colleges]

*Project Director*: David Dennis; Jessica Pisano (coproject director)

### Making Humanities Matter

A two-year faculty and curricular development project to integrate humanities and science with experiential learning in history of science courses.

### **Lansing Michigan Humanities Council**

Outright: \$300,000 [Community Conversations] Project Director: Joseph Cialdella

# Third Coast Conversations: Dialogues about Water

Implementation of a series of public programs across Michigan that would address the historical, cultural, and environmental impact of water.

# Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey

Outright: \$400,000 [Scholarly Editions and

Translations]

Match: \$125,000

Project Director: Paul Israel

### Papers of Thomas A. Edison

Preparation for publication of volumes 9 and 10 of the selected papers of inventor Thomas Edison (1847–1931), covering the period 1888–1892.

# SUNY Research Foundation, College at Cortland

Outright: \$195,406 [Institutes for School Teachers]

Project Director: Kevin Sheets

### Common Ground: Americans and Their Land During the Gilded Age and Progressive Era

A two-week workshop for twenty-five schoolteachers using the Adirondacks to explore the interconnection of urban and wilderness environments in America from the latenineteenth through early-twentieth-century.

### **CUNY Research Foundation, Graduate School and University Center**

Outright: \$65,912 [Scholarly Editions and

Translations]

Project Director: Romina Padro; Eduardo Barrio

(co-project director)

An Edition of Seminars on the Theory of Truth by American Philosopher Saul Kripke

Preparation for print publication of a threevolume edition of the philosopher Saul Kripke's Seminars on the Theory of Truth.

### Intrepid Museum Foundation, New York

Outright: \$126,283 [Institutes for School Teachers] Project Director: Lynda Kennedy

The Cold War through the Collections of the Intrepid Museum

A two-week institute for twenty-five schoolteachers on the history, experience, and legacy of the Cold War through its technology.

### Janice Nimura, New York

Outright: \$50,400 [Public Scholar Program]

How the Blackwell Sisters Brought Women to Medicine—and Medicine to Women-in 19th-Century America

Research and writing leading to publication of a dual biography of Elizabeth Blackwell (1821-1910) and her sister Emily Blackwell (1826-1910), pioneering women in American medicine.

### Salt Lake City Salt Lake Community College, Utah

Outright: \$189,043 [Institutes for College and

University Teachers

Project Director: Melissa Helquist

The Book: Material Histories and Digital

**Futures** 

A four-week institute for twenty-five college and university faculty on the history and technologies of the book.

### **Blacksburg Virginia Polytechnic** Institute and State University, Virginia

Outright: \$40,000 [Digital Humanities

Advancement Grants]

Project Director: Edward Ewing

### Viral Networks: An Advanced Workshop in Digital Humanities and Medical History

An advanced workshop on incorporating digital humanities tools into medical history research. Preceded by a series of virtual meetings and activities, the two-day workshop will be held at the National Institutes of Health and will result in an open-access publication of scholarly essays.

### Virginia Polytechnic Institute and **State University**

Outright: \$92,494 [Seminars for School Teachers] Project Director: Edward Ewing

### Flu! The 1918 Spanish Influenza in U.S. and World History

A three-week seminar for sixteen schoolteachers on the history and impact of the 1918 Spanish influenza epidemic, held in Blacksburg, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.



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

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

### **Doctoral Dissertations in HSTM**

You can view the latest batch of recent doctoral dissertations harvested from the issues 77-11 A and B of Dissertation Abstracts that pertain to the broad scope of the history of medicine and science at the following URL: http://www.hsls. pitt.edu/histmed/dissertations. Our thanks to Ionathan Erlen for his work on this.

### **American Philosophical Society Grants and Fellowships**

The American Philosophical Society's grant and fellowship programs will be of interest to many HSS members. These include grants for exploration and field research in astrobiology, dissertation completion fellowships, and general grants in all fields. Detailed information about the programs can be found on the APS website: www.amphilsoc.org.

### **Newberry Library Awards**

The Newberry in Chicago, Illinois has announced its Long-Term and Short-Term Fellowship awards for 2017-18. The awards support 11 long-term and 46 short-term fellows, with funds coming from Newberry endowments, grants, gifts, and consortia, as well as partnerships with other institutions and scholarly organizations.

A complete list of fellows is available on the Newberry website as well as a profile of each Long-Term Fellow.

The Newberry Fellowship program provides scholars the opportunity to extensively use our collections in a supportive environment. Often, fellows make exciting finds, develop new interpretations, and deepen their contextual understandings.

Fellows also participate in a lively community of scholars, including other fellows, curators, librarians, and our research centers, focused on advancing our understanding of the humanities.

A list of fellows with topics that may be of interest to HSS members appears below.

For further information on the fellowships, contact D. Bradford Hunt, Vice President for Research and Academic Programs, The Newberry Library, research@newberry.org

### Lawrence H. Kessler

Hawai'i's Sugarcane Plantations

Postdoctoral Fellow Consortium of History of Science, Technology and Medicine Fellow Planter's Paradise: Environment, Empire, and

### Deirdre Moore

PhD Candidate in the History of Science at Harvard University Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies Graduate Student Fellow Indigenous Knowledge and Breeding of Cochineal Insects in 18th Century Colonial Mexico

### Michelle Navakas

Assistant Professor of Literature at Miami University Newberry Library-Jack Miller Center Fellow Coral in Early American Literature, Science, and Culture

### Katherine Walker

PhD Candidate in Literature at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Newberry Library-American Society for Environmental History Fellow Reading the Natural and Preternatural Worlds in Early Modern Drama

### **Grant Recipients**

### Arielle Saiber

Associate Professor of Literature at Bowdoin College

Weiss/Brown Publication Subvention Award Computation and Writing in Renaissance Italy