

Communiqué

SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'HISTOIRE ET DE PHILOSOPHIE DES SCIENCES

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

No. 68

Autumn/Automne 2007

NEW SCIENCE STUDIES RESEARCH NETWORK ESTABLISHED IN CANADA

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada has awarded a \$2.1 million Strategic Knowledge Cluster grant to “Situating Science: Cluster for the Humanist and Social Studies of Science.” The seven year “Situating Science” project will bring together philosophers, historians, sociologists and anthropologists along with scientists, journalists, museologists, and others, to study the influences that have shaped the field of science, and the influence that science has on our lives. Four broad themes will be supported through local, national and international workshops, conferences, and other venues: 1. the historically evolving methodologies, authorities and objects of the sciences and technology; 2. the status of scientific practices and skills as well as the material cultures of science and technology; 3. scientific communication, both within science and between science and the larger society; 4. the geographical aspects of science and technology. “Situating Science” will also fund graduate and post-doctoral graduate research and scholar exchange related to the themes. The Cluster will be constructed around six regional nodes, centred at the University of British Columbia, Université du Québec à Montréal, the University of Saskatchewan, York University, McGill University, the University of Alberta, and the University of King’s College, which will administer the grant; and will be led by a management team of Alan Richardson (University of British Columbia), Yves Gingras (Université du Québec à Montréal), Larry Stewart (University of Saskatchewan), Bernard Lightman (York University), James Delbourgo/Nick Dew (McGill University), Robert Smith (University of Alberta), Gordon McOuat (University of King’s College), and Lesley Cormack (Simon Fraser University). The Cluster will be supported by \$1.8 million from the partnering institutions. More information on the Situating Science Cluster can be found at www.situsci.ca, or by contacting Greta Regan, Cluster Manager (gregan@dal.ca) or Gordon McOuat (Cluster Director – gmcouat@dal.ca) phone: 902 422-1271, FAX: 902 423-3357

Communiqué

Newsletter of the
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www.yorku.ca/cshps1

Please direct submissions and inquiries to Kenton Kroker or Sofie Lachapelle, preferably by email (details below). Please note that submissions should be sent in both official languages. The editors are grateful to York University for assistance in printing and mailing costs, and to the University of Guelph for providing the necessary software.

Co-editors:

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Editorials reflect only the views of the editors, and not those of the CSHPS-SCHPS' Executive or of its membership at large.

Les éditoriaux représentent seulement les idées des éditeurs et non celles de l'exécutif de SCHPS-CSHPS' ou de ses membres.

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Editorial — Issue 68

Of all the curios on display at the recent “Trust in Science” workshop held in Toronto on 15–16 October, one of the most intriguing involved HPS/STS’ infiltration of the public education system. Robert Bud, Head of Information and Research at the London Science Museum, proposed a long-term project that would reorient the museum around the concept of “science as a brand.” Bud’s paper naturally raised both questions and eyebrows, in part because his paper echoed the same provocative theme raised at the outset by Philip Mirowski – that of the relationship between science studies and neo-liberalism. The stakes are high, as anyone who has recently set foot in a museum knows. Grade-school students comprise one of the most important groups to consume (sorry, we meant “study”) what museums have on offer.

But just how deep is this market in the UK? Bud went some way to answering this question when he observed that History of Medicine is one of many options available at the public school level at the upper levels of the GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education). He estimated that around sixty thousand students between the ages of 14-16 take this option every year.

Such institutionalized HPS/STS pedagogy does not exist at the secondary level in Canada – and our field certainly suffers for this systemic neglect. Fortunately, a potential remedy is now available. Exploring the untapped potential of HPS/STS in the public school system fits perfectly with the mandate of the SSHRC-sponsored Cluster for the Humanist and Social Studies of Science (www.situsci.ca), as it would bring together interested parties from a wide range of disciplines and professions, and would take, as its object, the effective dissemination of science studies research to the Canadian public.

Perhaps it is time for us to worry less about our product, and more about its distribution.

*Kenton Kroker
 Sofie Lachapelle*

Éditorial — Numéro 68

De toutes les idées présentées au récent atelier « Trust in Science », qui s'est déroulé à Toronto les 15 et 16 octobre dernier, l'une des plus intéressantes concerne l'infiltration du système d'éducation public par les HPS/STS. Robert Bud, chef de Information and Research au London Science Museum, propose un projet à long terme visant à réorienter le musée autour du concept de « science en tant que marque ». La présentation de Bud soulève naturellement des questions et fait froncer les sourcils, en partie parce qu'elle réitère les mêmes thèmes provocateurs que ceux soulevés par Philip Morowski au début de l'atelier – soit la relation entre « science studies » et néo-libéralisme. Les enjeux sont certes élevés et tous ceux qui sont entrés récemment dans un musée le savent bien. Les écoliers constituent l'un des groupes les plus importants à consommer (pardon, nous voulons dire « étudier ») ce que les musées leur proposent.

Mais jusqu'à quel point ce marché est-il important au Royaume-Uni? Bud a répondu en partie à cette question lorsqu'il a fait remarquer que l'histoire de la médecine est l'une des multiples options accessibles à l'école secondaire aux niveaux plus élevés du GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education). Il estime qu'environ soixante mille élèves de 14 à 16 ans choisissent cette option chaque année.

Une telle institutionnalisation pédagogique des HPS/STS n'existe pas au secondaire au Canada – notre domaine souffre certainement de cette négligence systémique. Heureusement, on peut y remédier. L'exploration du potentiel inexploité des HPS/STS dans le système d'éducation public concorde parfaitement avec le mandat de la grappe Humanist and Social Studies of Science financée par le CRSH (www.situsc.ca). Celle-ci rassemblerait les parties intéressées de nombreuses disciplines et professions et se fixerait pour but la diffusion efficace de la recherche en études des sciences auprès de la population canadienne.

Peut-être le temps est-il venu pour nous de nous préoccuper moins de notre produit et plus de son rayonnement.

*Kenton Kroker
Sofie Lachapelle*

MEMBERS' FORUM

The members' forum presents an opportunity for CSHPS-SCHPS members to present their thoughts about issues in HPS/STS. Contributions are welcome! -eds.

Le forum des membres donne la chance aux membres de la CSHPS-SCHPS de présenter leurs opinions sur des problématiques en HPS/STS. Les contributions sont bienvenues! -eds.

“Simultaneous Revolutions in Art and Science”

Throughout the middle ages, art was highly emblematic and expressed a yearning for the spiritual world. In the renaissance, art broke away from the emblematic tradition and took a fresh delight in ever more realistic portrayals of the physical world. This artistic revolution happened at the same time as a scientific revolution that interested itself in ever more exact observation.

Medieval herbalists contented themselves with copying pictures from earlier manuscripts; the renaissance “fathers of botany,” such as Otto Brunfels and Leonhard Fuchs, hired artists and engravers to copy plants from life. Medieval anatomists used dissection merely to illustrate Galen; Vesalius and his students found inside the human body a whole new world to explore. And Tycho Brahe embarked on systematic observations of the planets with unprecedented precision.

Did these artistic and scientific revolutions happen at the same time by mere chance? I find this hard to believe, especially when I reflect that another pair of revolutions appeared at roughly the same time in the first half of the twentieth century. Art turned away from realism and produced surrealism, cubism, fauvism and all those other delightful -isms that seem so alien to our common sense view of the world. Literature and music experienced a similar flowering of vigorous experimentation. At the same time, physics alienated itself from common sense, first with special and general relativity and then with quantum mechanics. I recall a remark that expresses the spirit of that time: someone had proposed a new theory, and Bohr said,

“The idea is crazy, but not crazy enough.”

Surely, I think, some common social causes must be at work in these roughly simultaneous revolutions in art and science. I have puzzled over this problem for some considerable time, but I have not found any convincing answers. The social explanations commonly proposed for the scientific revolutions seem to me inadequate when applied to the artistic revolutions. I would be very interested in any ideas that other readers of *Communiqué* can suggest.

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ELECTRONIC PAYMENT FOR CSHPS-SCHPS MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE IN 2008

SCHPS-CSHPS will be offering electronic membership and renewal for 2008 starting in January. The payment site can be reached through the CSHPS website and will accept major credit cards through PayPal. This is a trial, and we will continue to accept payment by cheque. Members will receive renewal notices with this information in December or early January.

PAIEMENT ÉLECTRONIQUE DES AHDÉSIONS POUR CSHPS-SCHPS DISPONIBLE EN 2008

SCHPS-CSHPS offrira l'adhésion et le renouvellement électronique pour 2008 à partir de janvier. Le site de paiement sera accessible par le site web de la SCHPS et acceptera les cartes de crédit par le système PayPal. Il s'agit d'un essai, et nous allons continuer d'accepter les paiements par chèque. Les membres recevront un avertissement avec cette information en décembre ou début janvier.

MEMBERS' UPDATES

University of Alberta 53°31'N

Jeff Kochan is expecting completion of his post-doctoral in Philosophy in 2009. His recent publications include “Rescuing the Gorgias from Latour,” *Philosophy of the Social Science* 36 (2006): 395-422 and “Feenberg and STS: Counter-Reflections on Bridging the Gap,” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 37 (2006): 702-720. Jeff has also been busy nationally and internationally giving presentations including “Trusting in Science” (Feb. 2007) in Edmonton, “Scepticism and the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge (June. 2007) for CSHPS-SCHPS in Saskatoon, “Computer Simulation as Experimental Method” (Aug. 2007) at the Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice in Twente, Netherlands, “Prospects for a Scientific Democracy: From Plato to Popper and Back Again” (Sept. 2007) at Rethinking Popper Conference in Prague and “Technology and Freedom in Heidegger” (Oct. 2007) at WCPA in Saskatoon.

University of Calgary 51°5'N

John MacIntosh is part of its Department of Philosophy. He recently presented “Gravity, God, and Newtonian Atoms: Bentley and Newton on God's Existence” at the Annual International Universities Centre Conference on History and Philosophy of Science in Dubrovnik (April, 2007), “Robert Boyle on Laws of Nature” at Canadian History and Philosophy of Science Society annual meeting in Saskatoon (May, 2007) and “Locke and Boyle on the Primary/Secondary Quality Distinctions or Why the Primary/Secondary Quality Distinction Isn't,” at Western Canada Philosophical Association in Saskatoon (October, 2007). His paper, “Bentley's Invocation of the New Philosophy in Proofs of God's Existence” is forthcoming in the *Croatian Journal of Philosophy*.

Martin S. Staum is part of its History Department. His recent publications include “Ribot, Binet, and the Emergence from the Anthropological Shadow,” *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 43 (2007): 1-18, and “Race and Gender in Non-Durkheimian French Sociology, 1893-1914,” *Canadian Journal of History* 42 (2007): 183-208.

University of Winnipeg 49°54'N

Wesley M. Stevens enjoyed the renewal in 2006 of his Alexander Von Humboldt Research Prize 1992, which led to the completion of *Glossary of Latin Terminology of Mathematics and the Sciences in classical and medieval texts until A.D.1200*. Circling the globe in 50 days he has given many lectures in Ireland, Germany, Thailand, China, Canada, and the U.S.A. The most recent were for St Paul's College, University of Manitoba (21 February 2007): "Research in Paradise, adventures in the Herzog-August Bibliothek," and for the Medieval Academy of America meeting in Toronto, 13 April 2007, "Watching your p's and q's, a paleogeographical analysis of ms Paris BN Lat.13955," in honour of Leonard Boyle, former Professor at the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies and Prefect of the Vatican Library. In addition, Professor Stevens represented Canada at the quadrennial assembly of the International Union for History and Philosophy of Science in Beijing (July 2005) and was elected President of the International Society for Science and Cultural Development.

Simon Fraser University 49°17'N

Lesley Cormack and **Andrew Ede** are new additions to SFU, where they plan to build on Hannah Gay's foundational work in developing a history of science presence. Lesley is the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Andrew is a member of the History Department. They recently published their edited collection of primary sources, *A History of Science in Society: A Reader* (Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2007). Andrew Ede has also published his monograph, *The Rise and Decline of Colloid Science in North America, 1900-1935*, (Ashgate, 2007).

Cape Breton University 46°10'N

Andrew Reynolds is part of its Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. His recent publications include "Amoebae as Exemplary Cells: The Protean Nature of an Elementary Organism," (in press, *Journal of the History of Biology*), "The Cell's Journey: From Metaphorical to Literal Factory," *Endeavour* 31 (2007): 65-70, and "The Cell-State

Metaphor and the Question of Cell Autonomy in Nineteenth and Early-Twentieth Century Biology," *Science in Context* 20 (2007): 71-95.

University of New Brunswick 45°57'N

Steve Turner received a SSHRC research grant for a project entitled, "Potato Pathologies: Episodes in the Molecularization of Plant Pathology." He has published "Ideas, Institutions, and Wissenschaft: Accounting for the Research University," a review essay appearing in *Modern Intellectual History* 4 (2007), 367-78. He is also involved in research with CRYSTAL Atlantique, a group of regional specialists investigating K-12 science education in the schools of the Atlantic region.

Queen's University 44°13'N

Donald Forsdyke in collaboration with Alan Cock (1926-2005) has completed *Treasure Your Exceptions. The Life and Science of William Bateson* (Springer, New York, 2008). Bateson questioned the power of natural selection in evolution and with modern bioinformatics analyses of genomes, his views have been given fresh credence. The book is timely since 2009 will see major Darwin celebrations. Following up on his earlier text *The Origin of Species, Revisited* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2001), Donald is pleased to announce a new text - *Evolutionary Bioinformatics* (Springer 2006). Although it deals with "cutting edge" science, there is a great deal of history and philosophy. Possible readers include first year students who are required to take a mandatory science course.

York University: 43°46'N

Darrin Durant has two exciting new articles: "Resistance to Nuclear Waste Disposal: credentialed experts, public opposition, and their shared lines of critique," *Scientia Canadensis* 30 (2007): 1-30 and "Burying Globally, Acting Locally: Control and Co-Option in Nuclear Waste Management," *Science & Public Policy* 34 (2007). The latter is one of the few comparative public policy pieces (on nuclear power and radwaste) with an international focus.

Ruthanna Dyer is teaching an exciting new course on

Science and Exploration. Her paper on the Blaschka models in North American Education, "Learning through Glass" is forthcoming in *Historical Biology*. She is also co-authoring a revised text in *Pathophysiology for Health Professions*.

Ernst Hamm presented a paper on Mennonites and science in the Dutch Enlightenment at the 2nd International Congress of the History of Science, Cracow, September 2006, at the 2006 HSS meeting in Vancouver, and at the York University STS Seminar in October 2007. Meanwhile he's kept busy as Book Review Editor of *Isis*, researching a paper on Eduard Suess, Pozzuoli and Charles Lyell, in addition to Goethe work.

Edward Jones-Imhotep has a forthcoming publication due out next year entitled, "Icons and Electrons" in *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences*. In addition, "Reading Ionograms" will appear in a special edition of *Osiris* on Science, Technology and National Identity.

Kenton Kroker's first book, *The Sleep of Others and the transformations of sleep research*, came out in September 2007 on University of Toronto Press, which received a bit of coverage on CBC Radio One's "Metro Morning" the following month. He is co-editor (with Jennifer Keelan and Pauline Mazumdar) of *Crafting Immunity: working histories of clinical immunology* (Ashgate, Spring 2008). He will give two talks on the history of insomnia at Bristol and UCL this coming February. He is convenor of York University's Research Seminars in STS (www.sts.yorku.ca), and continues to work on a history of epidemic encephalitis.

Bernard Lightman has been busy with presentations and publications. He presented "A Conspiracy of One": Butler, Natural Theology, and Victorian Popularisation," at History Department Speakers Series, SUNY Buffalo (April, 2007), a panel on "Editing Academic Journals: Experiences, Challenges, Perspectives; A Cross-Disciplinary Round-Table with Distinguished Journal Editors," at SUNY Buffalo (April, 2007), "Popularizing Science: Nineteenth Century Origins, Strategies, and Syntheses," at Woods Hole Marine Biology Laboratory and Arizona State

University. History of Biology Seminar on "What's the Value of History for Science," (Woods Hole, 14-20 May 2007), "Science and Unbelief," conference on "Science and Religion Around the World," at Green College, University of British Columbia (May, 2007), "Mapping the Geographies of Nineteenth-Century Science," Plenary Address for conference on "Geographies of Nineteenth-Century Science: An International Interdisciplinary Conference." In Edinburgh (18-21 July 2007), and "Frank Buckland and the Resilience of Natural Theology: Curiosity of Natural History?" Conference on "Science and Religion: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives" in Lancaster (23-26 July 2007). Bernard's publications include (co-edited with Ann Shteir) *Figuring it Out: Science, Gender and Visual Culture* (Dartmouth College Press & University Press of New England, 2006), (co-authored with Aileen Fyfe) *Science in the Marketplace: Nineteenth-Century Sites and Experiences* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007), and *Victorian Popularizers of Science: Designing Nature for New Audiences* (University of Chicago Press, 2007).

Don Lungu recently presented a paper entitled TRACE - a Canadian Homebrew Computer Club at the CSTHA Conference in Toronto (October 2007). The paper was co-authored by Zbigniew Stachniak from York's Department of Computer Science & Engineering.

Aryn Martin has two publications to note. These publications are "Incongruous juxtapositions: The Chimaera and Mrs. McK," *Endeavour* 31 (2007) 99-103 and "The Chimera of Liberal Individualism: How Cells became Cells in Human Clinical Genetics" *Osiris* 22 (2007): 205-22

Mike Pettit joined its Psychology Department this Fall 2007. His recent publications include "The Joy in Believing?: The Cardiff Giant, Commercial Deceptions, and Styles of Observation in Gilded Age America," *Isis* 97 (2006): 659-77, "Joseph Jastrow, the Psychology of Deception, and the Racial Economy of Observation," *The Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 43 (2007): 159-75, and "The Unwary Purchaser: Consumer Psychology and the Regulation of Commerce in America," *The Journal of*

the History of the Behavioral Sciences 43 (2007): 377-99. Recent presentations include “‘The Unobserved but Observing Observer’: The Psychologist as Deceptive Performer and the Search for Natural Responses,” at the 2007 HSS Meeting and “Even the Rat was Queer: Behavioral Endocrinology and the History of Sexuality,” at the first joint meeting of the ESHHS and Cheiron last June.

Alexandra Rutherford just completed her book, *Beyond the Box: B.F. Skinner’s technology of behavior from laboratory to life, 1950s-1970s* (forthcoming, University of Toronto Press). She will be speaking on this work at the Seminar Series for the History of Postwar Social Science at the London School of Economics in April, and at an IHPST Colloquium Series at the University of Toronto in October. She recently received a SSHRC Standard Research grant for her next project, the history of feminist psychology in the United States and Canada. This project includes an extensive oral history component and has already resulted in a 30-minute video documentary called “The Changing Face of Feminism in Psychology” which was debuted at the American Psychological Association Convention in San Francisco in August. It will be shown next at the Women’s Studies Research Center at Brandeis University in November.

Joan Steigerwald is currently the Director of the Graduate Program in Humanities. She has recently published “Figuring Nature: Ritter’s Galvanic Inscriptions,” *European Romantic Review* 18 (2007): 255-63. Joan presented “Inversions of the chain of being: Schelling and Ritter” at a Special Meeting on “Temporalizing the Great Chain of Being: A Reappraisal After 70 Years” (HPS Cambridge, 16 January 2007), and “Instrumental Reasoning in Eighteenth Century,” (Bi-Annual Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology, Exeter, 25-29 July 2007). In addition, Joan was also Chair of the Program Committee for the CSHPS annual meeting in 2007.

Byron E. Wall will be traveling to Cambridge University for a 6 month sabbatical beginning in January 2008. There he will continue his research on ideas of chance and randomness in the 19th century.

Byron’s latest publication was “John Venn, James Ward, and the Chair of Mental Philosophy and Logic at the University of Cambridge,” *Journal of the History of Ideas* 68 (2007): 131-55. In addition he has given public lectures and papers at conferences, including “Galileo Galilei: Astronomer, Physicist, Anti-philosopher,” at Founders College Symposia on Intellectuals and Society (York University, 25 October 2007), “Chance in a Deterministic World,” at York Master’s Lecture Series (24 October 2007), “Ellis and Venn on Probability as Frequency,” which was a paper given at the Midwest History of Mathematics Conference (Erie, Pennsylvania, 13 October 2006), “Why John Venn Stopped Thinking about Probability and Logic at the End of the 19th Century,” at CSHPS 2006 annual meeting, and “The Triumph of Mechanism in Science, or, Why Scientists Think They Know So Much,” which was the keynote address at Toronto District School Board Science Conference at the Ontario Science Centre (10 February 2006).

Alison Li is an independent scholar in Toronto. Together with Elsbeth Heaman and Shelley McKellar, she has co-edited a festschrift entitled *Essays in Honour of Michael Bliss: Figuring the Social*. The volume contains essays in the history of Canadian politics, business and medicine and will be published by University of Toronto Press early in 2008.

University of Toronto 43°40’N

Anjan Chakravartty recently celebrated the arrival of his first book, *A Metaphysics for Scientific Realism: Knowing the Unobservable* (Cambridge University Press). The book considers contemporary prospects for a defensible realism and the interplay between its metaphysical foundations and explanatory aspirations. Fuelled by a new SSHRC grant, “Forms and Functions of Scientific Representation”, he is in the initial stages of a project exploring the techniques of construction and epistemic statuses of different kinds of representations, both abstract and concrete. He is currently on sabbatical gallivanting around the Americas, Europe, Asia, and a Visiting Fellowship at the University of Sydney, before returning to be Director of Graduate Studies at the IHPST.

John Court is an historian of medicine and psychiatry, and the Archivist for CAMH. Appointed in 2002 to the Faculty of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry, he was promoted to Assistant Professor in 2005. Early in 2007 he was also designated as an Associated Scholar of IHPST. John is involved with academic activities for the Department of Psychiatry's centenary year 2007-08.

Trevor Levere has recently retired and is now University Professor Emeritus Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto.

Denis Walsh is part of the Consortium for the History of Philosophy of Biology (CHPB). The CHPB is an interdisciplinary collaborative research group in the History and Philosophy of Biology. Its institutional members are IHPST/Philosophy, University of Toronto; Département de Philosophie, Université de Montréal; Center for Philosophy of Biology, Duke University; and IHPST Paris I. In the past year the CHPB has organised research workshops in Paris (on causation in biology) and Toronto (on the interpretation of evolutionary theory). Its activities are generously supported by the SSHRC International Opportunities Fund and by the member institutions.

Mark Solovey, a historian of the social and behavioral sciences and second-year faculty member at IHPST, presented a paper to the York University History and Theory of Psychology Seminar called "Why no national social science foundation? Senator Fred Harris's struggle to reshape national science policy during the turbulent 1960s." He is currently completing a book manuscript called *Follow the Money: The Rise, Decline and Fragmentation of Social Science in Cold War America*.

University of Guelph 43°32'N

Sofie Lachapelle recently presented papers at CSHPS in Saskatoon this past May and Cheiron in Dublin this past June. She is currently working on an article tentatively titled, "From the Stage to the Laboratory: Magicians, Psychologists and the Science of Illusions." Her article "Educating Idiots: Utopian Ideals and Practical Organization Regarding Idiocy

inside Nineteenth-Century Asylums" has come out in the latest issue of *Science in Context*.

MacMaster University 43°16'N

Richard T.W. Arthur, of MacMaster University, has over the past three years assisted in developing the Time and Universe (TaU) Cluster, collaborating with other physicists and philosophers in Canada. He has published works in the philosophy of time including "Minkowski Spacetime and the Dimensions of the Present," *The Ontology of Spacetime*, ed. Dennis Dieks (Elsevier, 2006): 129-15, and "Time Lapse and the Degeneracy of Time" forthcoming in the *Ontology of Spacetime II*, ed. Dennis Dieks (Elsevier, 2008). Richard has also recently presented the following papers: "Time, Inertia and the Relativity Principle" at a Symposium on Time and Relativity, Institute for Advanced Study, University of Minnesota, 27 October 2007; "Materialist Theories of Time" for the Proemial Lecture of the Tri-University PhD Program at Wilfrid Laurier University, 28 September 2007; "On the Flow of Time" at a Metaphysics of Time conference in Bergamo, Italy, 8 September 2007; and "Five Objections to Becoming Dissipated," at the TaU Workshop in Vancouver in May. In seventeenth century philosophy he recently published "Beekman, Descartes and the Force of Motion," *JHP* 45 (2007): 1-28, a controversial reinterpretation of Descartes' metaphysics of motion as profoundly indebted to that of the atomist Isaac Beekman, and "Leibniz's Body Realism: Two Interpretations," a joint paper with Peter Loftson (*The Leibniz Review* 16 (2007): 1-42), contesting the usual idealist reading of Leibniz. Currently he is working on a book offering a new interpretation of Leibniz's philosophy based on his solution to the continuum problem, and a second book project treating the interconnection of views on time, force and activity in seventeenth century natural philosophy.

University of Chicago 41°47'N

Jon Tsou recently had a paper published in International Studies in the Philosophy of Science; a shorter version of the paper was presented at the 2006 CSHPS meeting at York University. The paper

is “Hacking on the Looping Effects of Psychiatric Classifications: What Is an Interactive and Indifferent Kind?” *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science* 21 (2007): 329-44. He also wrote a review of Dominic Murphy’s recent book, *Psychiatry in the Scientific Image* that is forthcoming in *Philosophical Psychology*.

well as in intellectual history and philology. The series is edited by Alan C. Bowen and Francesca Rochberg. Prospective authors are invited contact the editors at ircps@IRCPS.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

4S MEETING, MONTREAL, 10-13 OCTOBER 2007

The theme of this year’s meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Science was “Ways of Knowing,” and if the number of presentations is any indication of the health of a society, then the 4S is flourishing: three full days of sessions made room for roughly 900 papers! The papers were short, but there was not shortage of them. Following up on the 4S meeting in Vancouver, this meeting also included a roundtable discussion on STS in Canada, organized by Patrick Feng (University of Calgary). This session was, for me at least, the highlight of the meeting – it was especially gratifying to learn that Canada’s existing strengths in the history and philosophy of science are now augmented by a remarkable growth in the sociology and anthropology of science. -Ernie Hamm

NEW PUBLICATION IN INTERPRETATIO SERIES

The Institute for Research in Classical Philosophy and Science is pleased to announce the publication of A. Mark Smith’s *Albacen’s Theory of Visual Perception: A Critical Edition, with English Translation and Commentary, of the First Three Books of Albacen’s De aspectibus, the Medieval Latin Version of Ibn al-Haytham’s Kitab al-Manazir*. This book is now available online for free browsing and searching. See <http://www.ircps.org> and follow the ‘books available’ link. The Interpretatio series is intended for readers interested in the history and philosophy of the various disciplines called science in the West from antiquity until the modern era, as

PRIZES, FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

“HISTORY OF SCIENTIFIC OBJECTS” AT THE MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE (BERLIN)

Two postdoctoral fellowships in conjunction with the research network “History of scientific objects.” For a research outline and information on the Network projects please visit <http://scientificobjects.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de>. The Network includes scholars of the humanities and natural sciences. The fellowship will be granted for two-year stay at the Institute in Berlin, beginning May 2008. The working language of the Network is English. Fellowships are awarded to outstanding young scholars of all nationalities who have received their PhD in the History of Science or related field after 31 December 2005. The projects should relate to the research areas of the network. For more details about the Network and its projects please contact the Network Co-ordinator Hannah Lund (hlund@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de). Women are especially encouraged to apply. The Max-Planck-Society is committed to employing more handicapped individuals and especially encourages them to apply. Applicants are invited to submit a curriculum vitae, a brief research statement describing their project and interest in the network (max. 1,000 words), a sample text (dissertation chapter or article) and two letters of reference **by 1 January 2008** to: Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science, Administration/Research Network, Boltzmannstr.22, 14195 Berlin.

IUHPS/DHST – 2009 DHS PRIZE FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS

The International Union of the History and

Philosophy of Science, Division of History of Science and Technology (IUHPS/DHST) invites submissions for the first DHST Prize for Young Scholars, to be presented in 2009. The DHST Prize is awarded by IUHPS/DHST every four years to four young historians of science and technology for outstanding doctoral dissertations, completed after July 2004. One prize is awarded in each of the following fields: Western civilization; Islamic civilization; East Asian civilization; South Asian civilization; and Ancient civilizations (not included in the former categories). Each prize consists of a certificate and coverage of travel and accommodation expenditures to the IUHPS/DHST Congress in Budapest in July 2009. The selection committee comprises the DHST President, the DHST Vice-President, the DHST Secretary General, and distinguished specialists in the specific fields. Applicants must have a doctoral degree in the history of science or technology awarded no earlier than July 2004. The entries must be on the history of science or technology in Western civilization, Islamic civilization, East Asian civilization, South Asian civilization, or antiquity. Any dissertation in a language other than English must be accompanied by a detailed summary in English of no more than 20 pages. Applications must be made in English and received at the Office of the DHST President (following) no later than **31 August 2008**: Prof. Ronald L. Numbers (rnumbers@wisc.edu), Department of Medical History and Bioethics, 1300 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53706-1532, USA.

OSLER LIBRARY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE – RESEARCH TRAVEL GRANT

The objective of the McGill Osler Library of the History of Medicine Research Travel Grant is to assist scholars who need to travel and establish temporary residence in Montreal in order to use the resources of the library. The grant has a value of up to \$2000CDN and a duration of 2-3 weeks. **Deadline for applications is 31 December 2007.** For further details contact the Office of Research Services (ORS) at research@yorku.ca or see http://www.mcgill.ca/osler-library/about/introduction/travel_grant/

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE – PAUL KLEMPERER FELLOWSHIP IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND THE AUDREY AND WILLIAM H HELFAND FELLOWSHIP IN THE MEDICAL HUMANITIES

Each year, The New York Academy of Medicine offers the Paul Klemperer Fellowship in the History of Medicine and the Audrey and William H Helfand Fellowship in the Medical Humanities to support work in history and the humanities as they relate to health, medicine, and the biomedical sciences. The Klemperer Fellowship supports research using the Academy Library's resources for scholarly study of the history of medicine. It is intended specifically for a scholar in residence at the Academy Library. The Helfand Fellowship supports work in the humanities as they apply to medicine and health, including works of non-fiction, visual or performing arts, biography and memoir, as well as scholarly research in a humanistic discipline other than the history of medicine. Although residence is not obligatory, preference will be given applicants whose projects require use of the resources of the Academy Library and who plan to spend time at the Academy. Each Helfand or Klemperer fellow receives a stipend of up to \$5,000 to support travel, lodging and incidental expenses for a flexible period between 1 June 2008 and 31 May 2009. Besides completing a research or creative project, each fellow will be expected to make a public presentation at the Academy and submit a final report. We invite applications from anyone, regardless of citizenship, academic discipline, or academic status. Preference will be given to (1) those whose research will take advantage of resources that are uniquely available at the Academy, and (2) scholars or creative artists in the early stages of their careers. The application process is the same for both fellowships. Our selection committee, comprising prominent historians and medical humanities scholars, will choose both fellows from a common pool of applications. These fellowships are awarded directly to the individual applicant and not to the institution where he or she may normally be employed. None of the fellowship money is to be used for institutional overhead. Applications must be received by the Academy by **4 March 2008**. Application forms and

instructions are available online (<http://nyam.org/grants/klemperer.shtml>). Potential applicants for either fellowship are encouraged to visit the Academy website (<http://www.nyam.org/>) to further acquaint themselves with the Academy and its library. When using the online catalog of the Academy Library, please be aware that entries for a considerable portion of the collections have not yet been converted to electronic form. For further information write: Office of the Academy Historian, New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10029, or email us at athistory@nyam.org.

PARTINGTON PRIZE – THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ALCHEMY AND CHEMISTRY

The Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry has established the Partington Prize in memory of Professor James Riddick Partington, the Society's first Chairman. It is awarded every three years for an original and unpublished essay on any aspect of the history of alchemy or chemistry. The prize consists of £350. The competition is open to anyone with a scholarly interest in the history of alchemy or chemistry who, by the closing date of **31 December 2007** has not reached 35 years of age, or if older has completed a doctoral thesis in the history of science within the previous three years. Scholars from any country may enter the competition, but entries must be submitted in English and must not have been previously submitted to another journal. The prize-winning essay will be published in the Society's journal, *Ambix*. One hard copy of the entry, word processed on one side of the paper, should be submitted, along with a copy of the entry on disc. We prefer files to be in MS Word 2000, if possible. Essays must be fully documented using the conventions used in the current issue of *Ambix*. Essays must not exceed 10,000 words in length, including references and footnotes. All entries must be submitted with a word count. All entries should be sent to Dr Gerrylynn K. Roberts, Department of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA, UK, with the words "Partington Prize" written clearly on the envelope. For further information

please see www.ambix.org or contact Dr Anna Simmons (A.E.Simmons@open.ac.uk).

MEDIA NOTES

CBC Radio One's program "Ideas" is running a series hosted by David Cayley called "**How To Think About Science.**" It began broadcasting on 14 November, and will be heard on 9:05 PM (9:30 PM NT) Wednesday nights, with a few interruptions, right through to the end of June 2008. Guests include: Simon Schaffer, Lorraine Daston, Margaret Lock, Ian Hacking, Andrew Pickering, Ulrich Beck, Bruno Latour, James Lovelock, Arthur Zajonc, Wendell Berry, Rupert Sheldrake, and Brian Wynne. For more information, as well as a link to the podcast, please go to <http://www.cbc.ca/ideas/features/science/index.html>

There is an internet radio station that plays nothing but science-based songs (<http://www.live365.com/stations/trappedinlab/>), but if that's not enough, try host Greg Crowther's "Science song links" at (<http://faculty.washington.edu/crowther/Misc/Songs/links.shtml>).

Elizabeth Green Musselman of Southwest University in Texas produces a monthly podcast on history of science called "The Missing Link." Even historians of psychology are liable to enjoy this one. The series has a website at <http://missinglinkpodcast.wordpress.com/> or you can look it up on iTunes.

The History of Psychology blog out of York University maintains postings on a number of topics relevant to historians of science. See <http://ahp.yorku.ca/>

The University of Aarhus has just launched a new interdisciplinary network for science, technology and medicine studies. The network is constituted by more than 45 faculty members and about 20 PhD students throughout the university. All activities and events are open to anyone interested. Please visit the website www.stm.au.dk for information about conferences, seminar series, PhD programmes, and much more. Send an email to the network secretary at stm@au.dk

if you want to subscribe to the newsletter or if you are interested in learning more about specific events. If you are interested in our visitor's programme please contact Dr Peter C. Kjaergaard idepck@hum.au.dk.

A NEW ACADEMIC BLOG ON CLIMATE ETHICS

Climate change raises profound, unprecedented questions of justice and equity for the human race. A new academic web blog has been created that follows the ethical dimensions of climate change issues that arise in day-to-day climate change policy making at <http://climateethics.org>. Subscribers to the site will automatically and generally receive weekly posts on climate change ethics issues that are derived from current important climate change topics. The site seeks not to do ethics in the abstract, but rather to tease out of actual positions that are contested in climate change policy-making those ethical issues entailed by these controversies (and only then, do ethical analyses). Climate change policy-making will continue to raise many profound questions about climate change solutions, fair allocations, atmospheric targets, trading, use of economic instruments and arguments, the use and significance of scientific and economic uncertainty, alongside many other matters. This new site will explicate the ethical dimensions of these and related issues.

NEW PROGRAMS

The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at University College, London, is the world's largest research institute devoted to the study of the History of Medicine. It invites applications from prospective PhD students for 3 years commencing September 2008. Candidates should normally have a Masters degree in a relevant subject. The Centre anticipates being able to offer two or three research studentships worth c. £19,000 pa plus the payment of "home" fees. Applications to study without a scholarship are welcome. Informal inquiries may be made to the Centre's Graduate Tutor, Dr. Helga Satzinger at h.satzinger@ucl.ac.uk. For further information and

application forms, please contact Adam Wilkinson at ucgaawi@ucl.ac.uk. The **deadline** for the full application is **14 December 2007**. Interviews will be held on 5 and 6 February 2008. For more details of the work of the Centre, please see www.ucl.ac.uk/histmed.

HPS/STS CAREERS

Lecturer in Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Medicine. Applications are invited for a career track lecturer (US equivalent: Assistant professor, tenure-track, with tenure decisions usually made within 5 years, sometimes substantially earlier), tenable from September 2008. Applicants should have a relevant PhD or be close to completion and should provide evidence of excellence in research and teaching. The successful candidate will be expected to make a substantial contribution to graduate teaching in areas relevant to philosophy and public policy. Please visit www.lse.ac.uk/jobsatLSE for an application pack. If you cannot download the pack, please email HR.Recruit.Lec@lse.ac.uk or call 020 7955 6718 quoting reference LEC/07/04. Application deadline is 14 December 2007. Regrettably, we are unable to accept any applications received after this date. We value diversity and wish to promote equality at all levels. Please see the following for an important electronic communications disclaimer: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/secretariat/legal/disclaimer.htm>
Salary: £37,099 – £42,975 pa incl

CALLS FOR PAPERS

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'HISTOIRE ET DE PHILOSOPHIE DES SCIENCES
(VANCOUVER, 3-5 JUNE 2008)

The Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Science (CSHPS) is holding its annual conference as part of the Congress of the Humanities and

Social Sciences (CFHSS) at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, 3-5 June 2008.

The program committee invites historians and philosophers of science, as well as scholars from any field whose work relates to history and philosophy of science, to submit abstracts for individual papers or proposals for sessions.

Submissions may be in English or French. Individual paper submissions should consist of a title, a brief abstract of 150-250 words, and complete contact information for the author. All individual paper submissions will be blind refereed. Session proposals should consist of a session title, titles and brief abstracts for each paper, and complete contact information for all proposed speakers. One must be a member of CSHPS in order to present a paper at the conference. Individuals whose papers have been accepted will be requested to join CSHPS for a modest membership fee.

CSHPS offers a book prize (the Richard Hadden Award) for the best student paper presented at the meeting.

Proposals will be accepted by e-mail only (**program.cshps@gmail.com**). MSWord or .rft attachment preferred.

Deadline for submissions is February 2008.

For more information about CSHPS, please consult our website: <http://www.yorku.ca/cshps1/>

Information about Congress registration and accommodation can be found (in due course) at the CFHSS website: <http://www.fedcan.ca/>

Please note that the CSHPS meeting overlaps with the meeting dates of a number of other member societies of the CFHSS, which this year includes the Canadian Historical Association, the Canadian Philosophical Association, the Canadian Sociology Association, the Canadian Women Studies Association, the Environmental Studies Association of Canada and the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy

of Mathematics. The CSHPS program committee welcomes suggestions for joint sessions with these and other societies.

La Société canadienne d'histoire et de philosophie des sciences (SCHPS) tiendra son congrès annuel dans le cadre du Congrès des sciences humaines (FCSH) à l'University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, British Columbia, du 3 au 5 juin 2008.

Le comité de programme invite les historiens et philosophes des sciences, ainsi que tous les chercheurs œuvrant dans des domaines connexes, à soumettre une proposition de communication, de séance ou de table ronde.

Les propositions de communication individuelle doivent comprendre un titre, un résumé de 150 à 250 mots et l'adresse entière de l'auteur. Toutes les propositions seront évaluées anonymement. Les propositions de séance ou de table ronde, en plus du titre et des résumés de chacune des contributions, doivent indiquer le titre de la séance, ainsi que l'adresse complète des tous les participants de la séance. Seules les propositions soumises par courriel seront considérées.

Il est nécessaire d'être membre de la SCHPS pour faire une conférence. Il est toujours possible de soumettre une proposition et de joindre la société avant de participer au congrès.

La SCHPS décerne un prix (le prix Richard Hadden) pour le meilleur texte d'étudiant ou d'étudiante présenté au congrès.

L'adresse de courriel pour les propositions: **program.cshps@gmail.com** (s.v.p. utiliser le format MSWord ou rtf pour les pièces jointes).

Date limite de soumission: 1 février 2007.

Pour plus d'informations sur la SCHPS, consultez le site web: <http://www.yorku.ca/cshps1/> Les informations concernant les frais d'inscription et les possibilités

d'hébergement se trouvent sur le site web de la FCSH:
<http://www.fedcan.ca/>

Nous vous rappelons que le congrès de la SCHPS a habituellement lieu en même temps que celui de nombre de sociétés membres de la FCSH, dont, cette année, la Société historique du Canada, la Société canadienne de philosophie, Société canadienne de sociologie, la Société canadienne d'histoire et de philosophie des mathématiques et l'Académie canadienne des études sur les femmes, l'Académie canadienne d'études environnementales. Le comité d'organisation de programme de la SCHPS encourage les propositions de séances conjointes avec ces sociétés.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE / COMITÉ
 D'ORGANISATION DU PROGRAMME

Jean-Pierre Marquis (Jean-Pierre.Marquis@umontreal.ca)

Tara Abraham (taabraha@uoguelph.ca)

Ian Stewart (ian.stewart@ukings.ns.ca)

**ROMANTIC DIVERSITY (TORONTO, 21-24
 AUGUST 2008)**

The North American Society for the Study of Romanticism invites proposals for papers on any aspect of science and Romanticism, but particularly topics relevant to the theme of Romantic Diversity, for its annual conference which will be held at the University of Toronto 21-24 August 2008. The deadline for abstracts is **15 January 2008**. Those proposing papers must be members of the organization. For further information see the conference website <http://www.utoronto.ca/english/NASSR/>

HISTORY AND THE HEALTHY POPULATION: SOCIETY, GOVERNMENT, HEALTH AND MEDICINE (GLASGOW, 3-5 SEPTEMBER 2008)

The Society for the Social History of Medicine (www.sshm.org/) 2008 Annual Conference will embrace all historical perspectives on the broad issue of how health has been defined and by whom. It will also

consider the reasons that the various agencies involved in healthcare, including patients and communities, have adopted their approaches and strategies. The event is framed by reference to the generation of historians influenced by the idea that issues of health and healthcare are entangled in the projects of government, and seeks to engage with and critique 'governmentality' as a tool of analysis in the history of medicine. The conference encourages papers from all periods and places in seeking a wide-ranging and inclusive set of discussions.

Deadline for abstracts is 31 March 2008. To submit a title and abstract of no more than 300 words please contact Lydia Marshall lmarshall@arts.gla.ac.uk

AUGUSTIN COURNOT DOCTORAL DAYS (ACDD) 5TH EDITION (STRASBOURG FR, 2-4 APRIL 2008)

The PhD students of the Augustin Cournot Doctoral School are pleased to announce the upcoming fifth edition of the ACDD to be held from 2-4 April 2008 at the Université Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg, France. This interdisciplinary conference provides a stimulating environment in which international PhD students and young researchers can exchange their ideas with experienced researchers. STS sessions of the conference will focus on history, sociology or economy of science, as well as other social studies of science and technology. Papers on the themes of SCIENCE AND SOCIETY INTERACTIONS, SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, RISK AND REGULATION, AND HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT will be particularly welcomed. But sessions will not be limited to these topics.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Bruno Latour, Professor and Research Vice-President at Sciences Politiques, Paris

Accepted papers will be presented in parallel sessions focusing on each domain. The format is a 20 minute presentation followed by 10 minutes of questions and discussion. Plenary sessions are scheduled during the three days with the participation of senior researchers.

Interested PhD students are expected to submit an extended abstract in English (2 pages minimum which describe very briefly the existing state of art, explain the research gap that you are trying to fill, the main theoretical and methodological points, and a presentation of results and the five main references, as well as three keywords) in electronic form to **doctoraldays@cournot.u-strasbg.fr**. Submissions should include the author's name, affiliation, address, phone number and email.

Conference fees are 60€, which covers registration, noon and evening meals.

Deadline for submission: **1 February 2008**

For further information on the conference format and program details, please refer to <http://cournot.u-strasbg.fr/acdd> or email **doctoraldays@cournot.u-strasbg.fr**

CANCER VACCINES FOR GIRLS? THE SCIENCE, ETHICS, AND CULTURAL POLITICS OF HPV PREVENTION (RUTGERS, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY, 16-17 MAY 2008)

Organizers:

Keith Wailoo (Rutgers University)

Julie Livingston (Rutgers University)

Robert Aronowitz (University of Pennsylvania)

Steven Epstein (University of California, San Diego)

This conference brings together scholars, clinicians, and researchers from a wide range of disciplines to discuss the significance of the new HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccines, including their promise for preventing some forms of cervical cancer, their economic, political, and cultural meanings, the controversies they spawned about the vaccination of adolescent girls, and emergent debates about vaccinating other groups.

Since its FDA approval in 2006, Merck & Co.'s Gardasil has inspired hope and sparked heated controversy –

about the role of such vaccines in the broader politics of reproduction and sexuality, about government and the public's health, about the price societies will pay for disease prevention, about the science of vaccination, and about the vaccine's true benefits and risks. In Texas, for example, when Republican Governor Rick Perry issued an executive order mandating that Gardasil be administered to all sixth grade girls in the state, the outcry was intense – from the legislature and from conservative groups concerned about heavy-handed government and about the vaccine's perceived role in “promoting promiscuity.” In the developing world – where an estimated 80% of the cervical cancer deaths worldwide occur, where HIV and HPV are deeply entangled, and where a history of population control often shapes anxieties over current health policy and practice – debates revolve around different issues: the high price of the vaccines, the lack of an infrastructure for initiating vaccination campaigns for adolescents, and (as in Texas) skepticism about the agenda behind such a campaign. To be sure – whether in Gaborone, Botswana or Austin, Texas – mistrust of powerful institutions, mixed with cultural anxieties about vaccination and suspicions about profit-making, play a crucial role in how the HPV vaccine story evolves. Adding to the complexity, cervical cancer (even before the role of HPV was discovered) was closely tied to the politics of sexually transmitted diseases, and thus to cultural and moral debates about sex, gender, and public health.

QUESTIONS TO EXPLORE: How do intersecting issues of economics, morality, biotechnology, and inequality determine who will benefit from such promising innovations? How do Gardasil, along with its rival, Cervarix (marketed by GlaxoSmithKline), activate latent and powerful issues of gender and sexuality in different societies? How do the new vaccines come to embody broader social concerns, economic interests, cultural fears, and political tensions? How have the development of HPV vaccines and the resulting controversies been shaped by what we believe about cancer risk? How has the efficacy of the vaccine been portrayed – in science, medicine, and the media – and how have target markets been identified? We also encourage papers examining the diverse rationales and agendas shaping the use of HPV vaccines: its use in

preventing penile cancer, its utility for preventing anal cancer (a particular concern of gay health advocates), and its use in boys to promote 'herd immunity' and to protect girls.

The conference – bringing together scholars from anthropology, history, public health, health policy, cultural studies, medical ethics, sociology, and other fields – focuses on intensive panel discussions of short pre-circulated papers.

Deadline for proposals: 15 January 2008. Interested participants are asked to submit 1-2 page proposals to Dora Vargha at (dvargha@eden.rutgers.edu). Papers will use the HPV vaccine controversy as a springboard for broader, cross-disciplinary discussion and reflection. Expenses of the conference participants will be paid. An edited volume will be published from the proceedings.

THE CULTURE OF PRINT IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MEDICINE (STEMP) (MADISON, WISCONSIN, 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2008)

The conference will include papers focusing on the dynamic intersection of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Medicine (STEM) and print culture. Papers might address ways in which STEM, its histories and materials, its theories and practices, its economics, and its practitioners affects or is affected by print culture. These approaches might include: innovations in the production and circulation of print; patterns of authorship and reading; publication, and dissemination of knowledge in the history of STEM. Alternatively, taking the various theories and methodologies that have grown out of half-a-century of historical and social studies of STEM, papers could investigate the social construction of STEM knowledge through print; technologies of experimentation and inscription as a print culture of the laboratory; and the social networks of readership in the production of scientific consensus or conflict. Though our emphasis is on the United States scene, we welcome submissions from other areas of the globe as well.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: The keynote speaker will be Professor James A. Secord (Cambridge).

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: Proposals for individual papers or complete sessions (up to three papers). Should include a 250-word abstract and a one-page c.v. for each presenter. If possible, submissions should be made via email to Christine Pawley (cpawley@wisc.edu). **The deadline for submissions is 15 January 2008.** Notifications of acceptance will be made by early March.

As with previous conferences, we anticipate producing a volume of papers from the conference for publication in a volume in the Center's series, "Print Culture History in Modern America" published by the University of Wisconsin Press.

TRIBUTE TO A GENERATION – THE 12TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE IN EAST ASIA (12TH ICHSEA) (JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, BALTIMORE, MD, 14-18 JULY 2008)

The central theme for the Twelfth Conference of the International Society for the History of East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine (ISHEASTM) will be "Tribute to a Generation." Among the 'High Ancestors' of our organization most members would include Joseph Needham, Yabuuti Kiyosi, Zhu Kezhen, Li Yan, and Qian Baocong. In addition to providing a forum for the latest scholarship in the history of science, technology, and medicine in East Asia, at our 2008 conference we will honor our field's 'Second Generation': Professors Li Di, Pan Jixing, and Xi Zezong in mainland China, Nakayama Shigeru and Yamada Keiji in Japan, Jeon Sang-Woon in Korea, Ho Peng-Yoke in Malaysia, and Nathan Sivin in the United States.

Each one of these scholars in their own way and national contexts laid the foundations in scholarship, journals, infrastructure, institutional commitment, and training during the second half of the 20th century for the global ISHEASTM community that exists

today. In addition to having their bibliographies and academic biographies posted on the conference, society, and journal websites, each honoree will have conference panels related to their respective research fields formally designated in their honour. In the case of the late Professor Li Di, this panel will take the form of a memorial session. There will also be a special reception hosted by the Department of the History and Sociology of Science of the University of Pennsylvania in honor of Professor Sivin's contributions to the field and his establishment of the society's journal *Chinese Science* in 1975.

With this "Tribute to a Generation" in mind, the Society encourages panel proposals centered on general themes these scholars developed in the field and which continue to flourish in new directions. Panels formed with such themes explicitly will be given priority. The society also encourages panels in core disciplines of the field including mathematics, astronomy, technology, alchemy, medicine and public health, and the life sciences in East Asia. Papers dealing with any of these wide-ranging themes will be welcome as it is the intent of the Organizing Committee to encourage broad participation from both senior and junior scholars. Individuals may also submit proposals for consideration separately from a panel or choose to present their research as a poster board to be exhibited with the display of recent books, journals, and announcements.

DEADLINES: Panel, paper, and poster board abstracts of 250 words should be sent via e-mail attachment to conference organizers Marta Hanson (mhanson4@jhmi.edu) and Morris Low (m.low@uq.edu.au). Financial assistance is available. Deadline 1 March 2008 [The information we received is very unclear. Please contact the organizers for further details. -eds]. Registration information at <http://www.nri.org.uk/>

BOOK REVIEW

If you would like to contribute a book review, please contact the editors. We are particularly interested in reviews of books (old or new) that CSHPS-SCHPS members have found influential for their own work.

Please note that all opinions expressed are those of the reviewer only, and are not meant to represent the views of the *Communiqué's* editors.

Si vous désirez contribuer une critique de livre, contactez les éditeurs. Nous sommes particulièrement intéressés aux critiques de livres (récents ou non) que les membres de la CSHPS-SCHPA ont trouvés particulièrement important.

Notez que toute opinion exprimée dans ces critiques sont celles du contributeur seulement et ne représente pas les opinions des éditeurs de *Communiqué*.

David R. Topper. *Quirky Sides of Scientists: True Tales of Ingenuity and Error from Physics and Astronomy*, xiii + 210 pp., illus., notes & refs., index. New York: Springer, 2007.

Reviewed by Martin Clutton-Brock, University of Manitoba (mbrock@cc.umanitoba.ca)

Good novels teach us how people feel; good history of ideas teaches us how people think. Now, just as the pathologies of behaviour and perception can tell us a lot about the inner workings of the brain, so pathologies of scientific discoveries – their errors, their oddities, and their quirks – can tell us a lot about how scientists think. Topper's book is an exemplar of this approach to the history of science.

The first and last chapters concern Einstein and modern cosmology; the middle chapters take us through Ptolemy, Copernicus, Tycho, Kepler, Galileo, and Newton. Because of Topper's concentration on quirks, his book is not a systematic history, but provides some of the most illuminating pathologies of each scientist's thought.

For example, Topper discusses Galileo's bizarre proof that gravity is an illusion: a stone falling from the top of a tower moves, Galileo says, not through a straight line nor through a parabola but through an arc of a circle that passes through the centre of the earth. Is this simply a "jest," a "poetic fiction," a "curiosity?" While Stillman Drake argues that it was indeed a jest, Topper

believes Galileo took it very seriously. I suspect that it was something of both. But it does not matter who is right: what Topper is really telling us is that discovery takes surprising twists and turns, and that all our understanding is ultimately fallible. “At the same time,” he adds in his postlude, “I am convinced that there is truth-content in the study of history as in science.” Topper’s gentle skepticism makes me stop to think far more often than I do while reading any systematic treatise. And just what, I find myself wondering, is the truth-content of Galileo’s idea of inertia? Is it circular or straight line or, as I now suspect, both? It is surely one of the great pleasures of history of science that it provides us with puzzles to turn over in our minds.

Topper adds many asides. The first chapter provides an example of Einstein’s saying that “it is theory that decides what we can observe” by noting that, while fossilizing in Wales, Charles Darwin completely failed to see any of the “wonderful glacial phenomena” all around him. Topper also conveys his pleasure in the ironies of history. How fascinating and how ironic, for example, that Ptolemy’s “nested spheres” model should place the sun at almost exactly the same distance as his wildly erroneous estimate derived from triangulation at half moon, and that this should have served to confirm Ptolemy’s system.

Topper shares his enjoyment in finding unexpected connections between disparate subjects. He poses and solves the riddle “why is the Sydney Opera House like the neutrino?” More seriously, he reveals Copernican circles in Michelangelo’s altarpiece in the Sistine Chapel, and he reveals Galilean parabolas in Artemisia’s *Judith Beheading Holofernes*. In early modern times, it appears, scientists studied art and artists studied science.

Topper’s quirks and ironies and unexpected connections make his book not merely interesting but also entertaining. We read serious academic treatises in search of those wonderful “aha!” moments, but alas, we are very rarely entertained. A few histories of science do exist that entertain: Koestler’s *The Sleepwalkers* and Richard Gordon’s *An Alarming History of Medicine* are examples; Topper’s more scholarly book now joins that elite company.

Part Five: The Single Hound (§51)

I THINK that the root of the Wind is Water,
It would not sound so deep
Were it a firmamental product,
Airs no Oceans keep—
Mediterranean intonations,
To a Current's ear
There is a maritime conviction
In the atmosphere.

—Emily Dickinson (1830–86) from *Complete Poems* (1924)



1955-56 CHEMICAL INDUSTRY PICTORIAL