



# THE ENVIROTECH NEWSLETTER

Fall 2005

Volume 5, Number 2



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## Pritchard and Horowitz Awarded the Second Envirotech Best Article Prize

By Sylvia Washington

The Envirotech Prize recognizes the best article on the relationship between technology and the environment published in the three previous calendar years. This year's Envirotech Prize was to be awarded to the Best Article on the Interplay between Technology and the Environment published between 2003 and 2005. For this second Envirotech prize, the committee was torn between two very fine articles

that dealt uniquely with the theme for 2005. It is a delightful and surprising honor to present Envirotech's Best Article on the Interplay between Technology and the Environment in 2003-2005 to both Sara Pritchard and Roger Horowitz.

Sara's essay, "Reconstructing the Rhone" was without question for this committee the most theoretically refined of all the submis-

sions. Sara's essay examined the changing perceptions of the Rhone River, by both the public and planners in post-war France and how these changes ultimately influenced the reconstruction of a highly regarded natural resource. As one member of the committee pointed out, she did this by cogently "linking these [changing] perceptions, in a highly illuminating way, with trends in French

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## The SHOT/HSS Roundtable on Envirotech Themes

By Tim LeCain

A packed conference room and spirited discussions demonstrated the growing interest in envirotechnical subjects among historians of technology and science at the recent joint meeting of the Society for the History of Technology and History of Science Society in Minneapolis.

Nearly 80 people attended the roundtable session, "At the Intersection of Environmental History and the History of Technology: Themes, Methods, and Directions." Organized and skillfully chaired by Hugh Gorman (Michigan Technological University), the roundtable



*Roundtable panelists discuss the intersections between technology and the environment at SHOT 2005: (left to right) John Staudenmaier, Martin Reuss, Edmund Russell, and Hugh Gorman.*

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Important Dates:

- **February 1:** Deadline for paper and session proposals for the 33rd meeting of the International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC) in Leicester, UK (see page 10)
- **March 29-April 2:** American Society for Environmental History annual conference, St. Paul, Minnesota (see page 11)

## Envirotech Best Article Award (from page 1)

### Where to find the articles:

Roger Horowitz, "Making the Chicken of Tomorrow," in *Industrializing Organisms: Introducing Evolutionary History*, ed. Susan R. Schrepfer and Philip Scranton (Routledge, 2003)

Sara Pritchard, "Reconstructing the Rhone: The Cultural Politics of Nature and Nation in *Contemporary France, 1945-1997*", *French Historical Studies* 27 (Fall 2004), 765-799.

Peter Thorsheim, "The Paradox of Smokeless Fuels: Gas, Coke and the Environment in Britain, 1813-1949," *Environment and History* 8 (2002), 381-401.

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## Envirotech needs a new co-chair!

Following two years of superb service, Envirotech co-chair Betsy Mendelsohn will be stepping down this summer. If you are interested in the position, please contact either Betsy or Joy Parr at the addresses above.

(Continued from page 1)

post-war society [and showed how] ... a nationalist vision of river development gave way to two divergent trends, one environmental and the other European. Pritchard deftly shows how decisions on the reconstruction of the Rhone were determined by these different sentiments."

Roger Horowitz's essay, "Making the Chicken of Tomorrow," was considered the most intellectually innovative of the submissions although less theoretical than Pritchard's because it dealt with a very new topic in our field, "the industrialization of organisms." As one member of the committee concluded, Roger's essay "not only raises a new topic but also shows the broad implications of his story by [showing how]

changes in American dietary patterns [were concomitant] with transformations in the technology of raising and processing chicken, in gender patterns, in business patterns (integration, finance), in marketing and market research, in the education and instruction of farmers through the extension service, in government regulation and food safety concerns, and in race patterns (both among consumers and workers)."

The consensus of this year's Envirotech prize committee was that in awarding a prize to Horowitz' essay, we would validate the enormous potential that this particular newly emerging field of research has for historians of both the environment and technology.

This year's committee would also like to acknowledge Peter Thorsheim's essay "The Paradox of Smokeless Fuels," which traced the discussions on the coal smoke issue in London in the 19th and 20th century, and the unanticipated environmental consequences of the pursuit of this fuel by architects of the smoke abatement movement. Thorsheim's well written essay paralleled previous discussions and arguments made by Joel Tarr in his highly regarded essay on the "ultimate sink."

*Written by Sylvia Washington on behalf of the 2003-2005 prize committee composed of herself, Frank Uekoetter (chair), and Erik Conway, and read by her the Envirotech breakfast meeting, November 6, 2005, at SHOT, Minneapolis.*

## SHOT Roundtable (from page 1)

brought together three top scholars with interests in envirotech: Martin Reuss (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), Edmund Russell (University of Virginia), and John Staudenmaier (University of Detroit, Mercy, and the editor of *Technology & Culture*.) The panelists were asked to respond to three questions provided to them earlier by Hugh Gorman:

1. What do the fields of history of technology and environment bring to each other?
2. Are historians of technology and environmental history working together and speaking to each other?
3. What might now be added to the seminal 1998 article in *Technology and Culture* by Joel Tarr and Jeffrey Stine, "At the Intersection of Histories: Technology and the Environment." (See *Technology & Culture*, 39 (1998): 601-640.)

In response to the first query, all three panelists agreed that the line between technological and the environmental studies is becoming increasingly porous, suggesting that this collapsing of

traditional disciplinary boundaries offers a promising methodological approach for envirotechies.

Ed Russell led off the discussion with the deliberately provocative observation that most environmental historians are also historians of technology—they just don't know it. Later in the discussion he noted the opposite is true as well, suggesting that historians of technology are also often doing environmental history, whether they recognize it as such or not.

"All technology is made out of nature," Russell argued. Technology does not replace nature but only converts it into new forms. Technology and nature are also intimately connected because most technologies are designed to control some aspect of the natural world. This nature is not passive, Russell observed, but rather feeds back into sociotechnical systems in complex ways that are of interest to historians.

Martin Reuss furthered this line of thinking by noting that any perceived divide between environmental history and history of technology are in

(Continued on page 3)

## SHOT Roundtable (from page 2)

*"All technology is made out of nature . . ."*

—Ed Russell

*"Envirotechnical approaches might well be seen as one of the fundamental ways historians of all stripes need to analyze and understand broader human history of every type."*

part a result of the different way the two fields define an "artifact." Is a hedgerow a human or a natural artifact, Reuss asked. What about nanotechnology where artifacts are introduced into and become part of the human body? The "environment," he concluded, is best viewed not just as nature but as also including the built technological environment.

John Staudenmaier, with his deep perspective on the history of SHOT, framed the issue in terms of what historians of technology consider to be their proper field of study. SHOT members, Staudenmaier noted, once emphasized the creation of discrete technological inventions, striving to look inside the black box of technology to better understand and explain the "machinery." Over the past 15 years or so, however, historians of technology have taken far greater interest in the "downstream" use of technologies, moving the field both conceptually and geographically away from discretely defined boxes of any sort. Much of this work has focused on how technologies are constructed by different societal groups, but this theoretical approach also opens the door for considering the natural world as an active player in (to use Thomas P. Hughes' phrase) "ecotechnological systems." In this light, Staudenmaier seconded the observations of Russell and Reuss by noting that the conceptual and disciplinary dividing line between nature and technology is becoming ever more porous.

Echoing some of the ideas in his influential 2003 article in *Environmental History*, "Evolutionary History: Prospectus for a New Field" (*Environmental History* 8 (2003): 204-228), Russell urged attendees to historicize nature by viewing it as a constantly changing arena in which humans and technology both play important roles. Central to this type of evolutionary history, he argued, is the process of co-evolution in which humans use technology to alter natural

organisms like dogs and cattle, which in turn influence the course of human cultural and technological development.

Turning to the question of whether historians of technology and environmental historians are talking each other, all the panelists agreed that the connections they had previously identified suggested a healthy interplay between the fields. Reuss further noted that the two fields have a natural affinity in that they both are deeply interdisciplinary and require practitioners to be reasonably well-versed in scientific, engineering,

geographical, and other specialized topics outside the purview of most traditional historians.

Russell took the question even further, arguing that the envirotechnical approach has the potential to offer important insights not just to historians of technology

and the environment, but also to historians in more traditional fields. Power itself, Russell suggested, might best be viewed as the product of successfully controlling nature, which in turn is achieved at least in part by using technology. This control over nature may be used for bad or good, and thus it is deeply implicated in the social, political, and cultural relations that "mainstream" historians have studied for decades, like political or diplomatic history. Envirotechnical approaches might well be seen as one of the fundamental ways historians of all stripes need to analyze and understand broader human history of every type.

All of the panelists praised the 1998 article by Stine and Tarr as insightful and path breaking. This good start, however, has since produced tremendous progress in the field, as suggested in the panelists' previous remarks. Perhaps the best testimony to the influence of the Stine and Tarr article might well be that it has inspired so much new knowledge that it is already out of date a mere seven years after its first publication.



*Interest in the envirotech roundtable was high, with nearly 80 HSS and SHOT scholars attending the session.*





## Envirotech Member News

- **Josh Howe**, graduate student at Stanford University, has assumed responsibility for the envirotech email list and website. Thanks to Erika Monahan who managed the list for the last 18 months and found Josh to replace her, and also to Gabriella Petrick for her skilled tenure as our webmaster. Please contact Josh regarding the email list or website at [jhowe@stanford.edu](mailto:jhowe@stanford.edu).
- Our esteemed hard-working Envirotech co-chair **Betsy Mendelsohn** will be stepping down from her post this summer. Please contact Betsy ([bmendel@mail.umd.edu](mailto:bmendel@mail.umd.edu)) or Joy Parr ([jparr@uwo.ca](mailto:jparr@uwo.ca)) if you would be interested in being the next Envirotech co-chair.
- Likewise, **Sylvia Washington**, who has done a great job on the Envirotech prize committee, will be rotating off soon. Please contact Frank Uekoetter ([frank.uekoetter@web.de](mailto:frank.uekoetter@web.de)) or Erik Conway ([Erik.M.Conway@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Erik.M.Conway@jpl.nasa.gov)) if you are interested in serving.
- **Martin Reuss** has been elected vice-president/president-elect of the International Water History Association. He will assume his duties in Paris at the beginning of December, and will subsequently be president for a two-year term beginning in 2007.
- **Gabriella Petrick** has joined the faculty of New York University's department of Nutrition, Food Studies and Public health as an assistant professor.
- **Tom Zeller** has published a new article in co-edited volume:
  - "How Green Were the Nazis?" in Franz-Josef Bruggemeier, Mark Cioc, and Thomas Zeller, *Nature, Environment, and Nation in the Third Reich* (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2005). Further information is available at: <http://www.ohiou.edu/oupres/fw2005/bruggemeier/>. Tom has also co-edited a second volume along with Thomas Lekan, *Germany's Nature: Cultural Landscapes and Environmental History* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2005). Further information available at: [http://165.230.98.36/acatalog/Germany\\_s\\_Nature\\_2257.html](http://165.230.98.36/acatalog/Germany_s_Nature_2257.html).
- **Finn Arne Jørgensen** reports: I am a PhD Candidate in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. At the moment I am working at the Department of Science, Technology, and Society at the University of Virginia, USA, for the school year 2005-2006. I was just named as a 2005—2007 SHOT International Scholar. Right now, I am primarily working on my dissertation, which I plan to finish in March 2007. My dissertation is on the Reverse Vending Machine, used for the return of empty bottles and cans in grocery stores. I follow this machine from its introduction in grocery stores in 1971 through its integration in environmental policy and consumer culture in the 1980s and 1990s. My study intersects with the history of business, technology, and the environment. Other research interests are: waste, garbage, consumption, design, product development, and innovation. My web site is <http://www.hf.ntnu.no/hf/tverrfaglig/Ansatte/finn.jorgensen/personInfo.html>



*Envirotechies turned out in force for the traditional SHOT Special Interest Group breakfast, Saturday, November 5, in Minneapolis.*

# Conference Report From Montana: “Spaces of Struggle: Power and the Transformation of Nature”

By Sara B. Pritchard

Thanks to a generous three-year grant from the National Science Foundation, the Department of History & Philosophy at Montana State University held the second of its three annual conferences, “Spaces of Struggle: Power and the Transformation of Nature,” September 28 – October 2, 2005 in Big Sky and Butte, Montana.

The conference series focuses on the intersection of the history of science and technology, environmental history, and historical geography in comparative historical and cultural context. It is organized around the “workshop” model: pre-circulated papers are distributed in advance, authors’ presentations are limited to 5-10 minutes, and panel discussants are encouraged to synthesize papers in order to foster cross-paper and cross-session discussion. This year’s meeting had four official sessions: “The Contested Shapes of Empires;” “Something in the Air and Water;” “Disciplined Landscapes;” and “Between Two Worlds.”



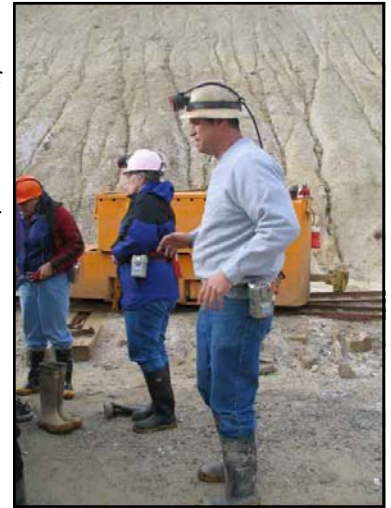
*Conference attendees enjoy a chuck wagon barbecue dinner along the banks of the beautiful Gallatin River.*

We were happy to welcome a number of esteemed colleagues to southwestern Montana: Keith Benson (University of British Columbia); Alex Checkovich (University of Virginia); Jeff Hanes (University of Oregon); Laura Hostetler (University of Illinois – Chicago); Jake Kosek (University of New Mexico); Gregg Mitman (University of Wisconsin); Katherine Morrissey (University of Arizona); Mark Overmyer-Velazquez (University of Connecticut); and last, but not least, last year’s NSF postdoc (now postdoc, *emeritus*) Bob Wilson (Syracuse University). Several MSU faculty members also gave papers, including Tim LeCain, Yanna Yannakakis, and this year’s NSF postdoctoral fellow, Arn Keeling.

We were honored to have Don Mitchell, Chair of the Department of Geography at Syracuse University and MacArthur fel-

low, serve as keynote. Don gave a fabulous and dynamic talk, “Spaces No Longer of Struggle: Dead Labor and the Transformation of Nature in the Imperial Valley.”

We tested our stellar administrator’s patience by moving the conference Saturday morning from Big Sky to Butte where we toured one of the most important “spaces of struggle,” not only in the history of Montana, but also the history of the U.S. The Butte “field trip” was composed of three tours: an underground tour of a working mine complete with ore car, hard hat, rubber boots, and emergency signal; an above-ground tour of the Anselmo mine, which was abandoned after a 1950s strike and has been largely left “as is;” and a driving tour of downtown Butte and the famous “mile high, mile



*Robert Cronoble, a mining engineer from Montana Tech, outfits some of the participants for their trip into an underground mine.*

deep,” Berkeley pit. Special thanks go to our MSU colleagues, Dale Martin and Mary Murphy, both of whom are specialists in Butte and Montana history, for helping coordinate the field trip.

Overall, the conference was quite productive, the Butte field trip a huge hit, and the extended weekend fun. The department was especially impressed by our Master’s and Ph.D. students’ participation this year. Several of them will be on the conference program next year.

Speaking of which, next year’s conference is now in the works and this year’s coordinators (namely, Tim LeCain and I) are quite happy to serve as conference coordinators, *emeriti*.



*The flooded Berkeley Pit, part of the largest Superfund site in the nation.*

**Photos courtesy of Jennifer Chrisman.**

## Sources, Tips, and Tools for Envirotechies

### Monthly Newsletter: Solidarity & Sustainability

**Luis T. Gutierrez** (LTG1979@attglobal.net) reminds envirotechies of the newsletter, *Solidarity & Sustainability: The Social and Ecological Impacts of Religious Patriarchy*, available at <http://www.pelican-consulting.com/solisust.html>. This monthly newsletter is non-commercial and made available free of charge. The central theme is both sensitive and critical: gender equity -- and, in particular, religious gender equity-- is indispensable to make progress toward solidarity and sustainability. Six issues have been posted:

- V1 N1 May 2005 ~ Cross-Gender Solidarity
- V1 N2 Jun 2005 ~ The Phallogocentric Syndrome
- V1 N3 Jul 2005 ~ From Patriarchy to Solidarity
- V1 N4 Aug 2005 ~ Synthesis of Patriarchy and Solidarity
- V1 N5 Sep 2005 ~ From Solidarity to Sustainability
- V1 N6 Oct 2005 ~ Dimensions of Sustainability

Any feedback is most welcomed. Please share this notice with other persons who might be interested.

### Teaching with William Langewiesche's *The Outlaw Sea: A World of Freedom, Chaos, and Crime*

**Erik P. Rau** ([erau@drexel.edu](mailto:erau@drexel.edu)) reports: I used a chapter from William Langewiesche's *The Outlaw Sea: A World of Freedom, Chaos, and Crime* (North Point Press, 2004) in my technology in developing nations course (actually I taught it as a tech & globalization course). The whole book is an engagingly written journalistic exploration of the intersection of technology and the environment (in particularly the world's oceans). I used a chapter on shipbreaking (the fact that it's work that's been exported to developing countries, especially in South Asia), which appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* in 2000. It's wonderful for demolishing sacred cows on all sides. Very good to teach with, very good to think with.

### NOAA Central Library: an Envirotech research tip

**Betsy Mendelsohn** reports: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration headquarters, located in suburban Washington, D.C., next to the Silver Spring Metro station, includes the NOAA Central Library, an open stack, 1.5 million item collection about earth, ocean and atmospheric sciences. It is an excellent resource for historians of science, environment and technology. The library is both a working collection for modern NOAA scientists, and a set of "fossil" collections. These are the combined libraries of the major legacy agencies that were joined into NOAA in 1970: the former Coast & Geodetic Survey, the oldest scientific agency in the government (1807), the former Weather Bureau, the oldest environmental monitoring agency (1870), the former Bureau of Fisheries, the oldest conservation agency in the government (1871), and the Central Radio Propagation Laboratory (circa 1930) that pioneered studies of the ionosphere and was the prelude to NOAA's space-based programs.

The open stacks hold atlases, series, monographs, and off-prints, and the library is a government depository with holdings concentrated in the marine, atmospheric and environmental sciences. Other collection areas include geography, surveying, and instrumentation, and there is a large amount of foreign language literature, particularly rich in full volume sets of the major European science and technology journals of the middle and late 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The NOAA History website at <http://www.history.noaa.gov/> describes some of the depths of the collection, such as the contribution of German immigrants to the scientific and technical expertise of the pre-Civil War Coast Survey and the European journals they collected that now live at the library. The geography collection alone contains hundreds of volumes, most published before 1950, describing the world in several languages. Hundreds of atlases carry beautiful renderings of scientific data. Digitization projects have placed many of these rare publications online, such as every U.S. "daily weather map" spanning 1872-1968.

A search engine and other tools at <http://www.lib.noaa.gov/> enables researchers to browse holdings electronically, but about half the library's items, most of those acquired before 1975, are featured only in the card catalog. Skip Theberge ([Abert.E.Theberge.Jr@noaa.gov](mailto:Abert.E.Theberge.Jr@noaa.gov)) and John Cloud ([John.Cloud@noaa.gov](mailto:John.Cloud@noaa.gov)) who are associated with the NOAA History project, and other library personnel with a fine knowledge of the collection, can provide research assistance. 2007 will mark both the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SHOT and the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Coast Survey, and it is hoped that research and activities related to each will be complementary. Consider visiting the library to see a collection unduplicated anywhere; the NOAA History office would love to see more historians using the collection.

### The "Envirotechnical" Photography of Edward Burtynsky

Envirotechies will be fascinated by the photographs of industrial landscapes done by Edward Burtynsky. On his website, the photographers writes:

*"Nature transformed through industry is a predominant theme in my work. I set course to intersect with a contemporary view of the great ages of man; from stone, to minerals, oil, transportation, silicon, and so on. To make these ideas visible I search for subjects that are rich in detail and scale yet open in their meaning. Recycling yards, mine tailings, quarries and refineries are all places that are outside of our normal experience, yet we partake of their output on a daily basis."*

Check out this superb chronicler of modern industrial society at:

<http://www.edwardburtynsky.com/>



Recycle  
your ET  
tips!



## Call for Papers and Manuscripts

The University of Akron Press is pleased to announce that Prof. Stephen H. Cutcliffe of Lehigh University has agreed to serve as the new Editor for their Series on Technology and the Environment, which was formerly co-edited by Jeffrey Stine and Joel Tarr. The series includes works that focus on the intersection of environmental history and the history of technology, a topical area of interest to many historians, and especially those involved with the special interest group Envirotech.

Previously published volumes in the series include:

Jeffrey Stine, *Mixing the Waters: Environment, Politics, and the Building of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway*

James Rodger Fleming and Henry A. Gemery, eds., *Science, Technology, and the Environment: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*

Joel A. Tarr, *The Search for the Ultimate Sink: Urban Pollution in Historical Perspective*

James C. Williams, *Energy and the Making of Modern California*

Dale H. Porter, *The Thames Embankment: Environment, Technology, and Society in Victorian London*

William McGucken, *Lake Erie Rehabilitated: Controlling Cultural Eutrophication, 1960s-1990s*

Hugh S. Gorman, *Redefining Efficiency: Pollution Concerns, Regulatory Mechanisms, and Technological Change in the U.S. Petroleum Industry*

Jonathan Richmond, *Transport of Delight: The Mythical Conception of Rail Transit in Los Angeles*

Authors with manuscripts of potential interest for the series are invited to contact the series editor: Stephen Cutcliffe, STS Program, 327 Maginnes Hall, Lehigh University, 9 West Packer Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18015. Phone 610-758-3350; e-mail: [stephen.cutcliffe@lehigh](mailto:stephen.cutcliffe@lehigh)

### Call for papers on the environment and disasters/disease in Pennsylvania and/or the Mid-Atlantic region.

**Special Issue, 2006 of Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies. Publication Date: 2006-01-15 Date Submitted: 2005-11-09**

Announcement ID: 148535

Jeff Davis, Associate Editor of Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies, is currently looking for paper submissions for a special issue on the environment and disasters/disease in Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States. While articles specifically concentrating on Pennsylvania History are preferred, papers on issues from the region that are directly relevant to the Keystone State are also acceptable. For this project, the Mid-Atlantic region constitutes all states bordering Pennsylvania and includes the District of Columbia, greater Appalachia, and the Upper Ohio River Valley.

Articles are to be approximately 9,000-15,000 words in length, use endnotes, and conform to the Chicago Manual of Style. Please contact Jeff Davis via email if you wish to submit an article and you will be sent a Pennsylvania History Style Sheet. Submissions will include a 100 word abstract, hard-copy of the article double-spaced in triplicate, and an electronic file in Microsoft Word format.

Jeff Davis

Associate Professor of History

Associate Editor of Pennsylvania History: Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies

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## Call for Papers and Manuscripts (Cont.)

A highly regarded university press has expressed an interest in the development of an anthology on **Race, Technology and the Environment (REVTech)**. The **REVTech** anthology would contain a maximum of twenty original essays (6000 to 7000 words per essay) focused on North American (i.e. USA, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean) experiences approximately framed between 1850 to 2000. Race for this anthology is broadly defined and includes but is not limited to American communities of African, Arab, Asian, Latino, Native American and European (particularly those who have long term histories of environmental marginalization) descent.

The goal of the REVTech anthology is to make a rigorous attempt to provide answers to the following questions:

***How have technologies transformed the lived environment of racial/ethnic minority communities?***

***How have racial/ethnic minorities used, adapted and or /taken back technologies to make them their own for environmental purposes or to alter the environmental conditions of their communities?***

***How have racial/ethnic minorities had different access to particular technologies, and what has that meant for their lived environment?***

***How would the combined history of technology and environmental history really look if it took into consideration the experiences of racial/ethnic minorities when placed at the center of the history.***

The **REVTech** anthology as it is currently envisioned would include but not be limited to the following **9** themes:

### **1. Race, Transportation Technologies and the Environment**

--- cars (trains, airplanes) roles in transforming the environmental landscapes of racial/ethnic communities(noise and particulate pollution)

--how racial and ethnic communities utilized transportation technologies to alter and or escape marginalized environments.

### **2. Race, Air Purification Technologies and the Environment**

---air pollution control devices (by industries) and their ecological and public health impacts on these communities

---accessibility/utilization of in-door and in-car technologies and the impact on environmental health

### **3. Race, Waste Water and Water Quality Technologies and the Environment**

---municipal sanitation technologies and their ecological and public health impacts on communities of color and ethnic communities

---industrial effluent treatment technologies and their impact on communities of color and ethnic communities

### **4. Race, Water Control Technologies and the Environment**

---dams and levee technologies and their impact on communities of color and the poor.

### **5. Race, Solid Waste Management Technologies and the Environment**

---incinerators and their ecological and public health impacts on communities of color and ethnic communities

---landfills and their impact on communities of color and ethnic communities

*(Continued on page 9)*



## Call for Papers and Manuscripts (Cont.)

---recycling technologies and their impact on communities of color and ethnic communities

### 6. Race, Energy (Power) Generation Technologies and the Environment

---fossil fuel fired plants and their impact on communities of color and ethnic communities

---oil production technologies and their impact on communities of color and ethnic communities

---nuclear plants and their impact on communities of color and ethnic communities

---solar/photovoltaic and alternative energy technologies

### 7. Race, Space Technology and the Environment

---space debris and their impact on communities of color and ethnic communities

---history of NASA and its impact on rural and or indigenous communities

### 8. Race, Environment and Communication (Internet, TV and Radio) Technologies

--- communication technologies and their impact on environmental activism and environmental literacy.

### 9. Race, Environment and Invention

-- minority and ethnic inventors who have created or contributed to the development of environmental and pollution prevention technologies.

Anyone interested in contributing an original essay to this volume should send a 500 word abstract and updated CV by April 22, 2006 to:

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# Call for Papers and Manuscripts (Cont.)

## *Call for Papers*

for

## **ICOHTEC 2006**

**The International Committee for the History of Technology's 33<sup>rd</sup> Symposium in Leicester, U.K., 15 - 20 August 2006**

## ***Transforming Economies and Civilizations: The Role of Technology***

The ICOHTEC program committee has chosen the broad general subject of technology over "la longue durée" as the theme for ICOHTEC's 33<sup>rd</sup> symposium. A variety of topics lend themselves particularly well to treatment with the "longue durée" in mind, and the committee suggests the following themes to contributors:

- Energy systems (wind, watermills, steam power, nuclear, etc.) water systems, sanitary systems, and other utilities
- Changes in communication and media technologies, with the associated social, economic and cultural aspects
- Transportation, such as the development of sea transport and railroads in creating trans-local and "global" economies, and their role in cultural exchange and cross-fertilization
- Long-term developments in the use of materials, such as pigments, ceramics, and dyes; iron and steel.
- Comparisons of Chinese, pre-Columbian American, African, and European technologies, and changes therein under the influence of cultural and economic contact
- Issues inspired by scholarly approaches in ethnology, ethnography and anthropology, which have resulted in topics dealt with in "modern cultural history" (e.g., the body, youth, old age, birth, death, the senses, health, illness)
- Medicine, public health, and the evolution of medical technologies
- Developments in military technologies
- The survival of "old" technologies and the revival of "obsolete" technologies
- Implicit knowledge, embodiment, and similar themes

Technical "revolutions," such as the Agricultural Revolution, the Technical Revolution of the Middle Ages, the Industrial Revolution, and the Information Revolution

Proposals for two sessions are already in preparation: one on sound, noise, and music and a second on gunpowder.

As with all ICOHTEC symposia, it is possible to propose sessions and individual papers on topics other than those suggested by the program committee.

\* \* \* \*

**The ICOHTEC Program Committee welcomes proposals for individual PAPERS and SESSIONS for the 33<sup>rd</sup>**

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Call for Papers and Manuscripts (Cont.)

**Symposium in Leicester, U.K. Deadline for proposals is 1 February 2006. Membership in ICOHTEC is not required to participate in the symposium.**

Proposals for PAPERS should include: (1) a 250-word (maximum) abstract in English; (2) a short CV (1-page maximum). In addition to describing the topic being discussed, abstracts should include the approaches, research questions, arguments or hypotheses employed by the author. In order to permit discussion, presenters will have 20 minutes to deliver papers.

Proposals for SESSIONS should include the following: (1) an abstract of the session (250 words maximum); (2) a list of the proposed session papers; (3) abstracts for each paper (250 words maximum); (4) short CV (1 page maximum) for each author. ICOHTEC sessions customarily include a chairperson, but no separate commentator. Sessions should include a minimum of four speakers, and may include several parts extending for several days.

Please send all proposals for SESSIONS and PAPERS by email to James Williams, Program Committee Chair at [techjunc@pacbell.net](mailto:techjunc@pacbell.net).

Other members of the committee include Ernst Homburg, The Netherlands; Sue Horning, U.S.A.; Alex Keller, U.K.; Wolfgang Koenig, Germany; and Timo Myllyntaus, Finland.

If Email is unavailable, proposals may be sent by fax to Dr. Williams: 650-960-8195. Otherwise they may be sent via regular mail, postmarked by 1 February 2006, to:

James Williams, 790 Raymundo Avenue, Los Altos CA, 94024 USA

**Please check the ICOHTEC Website <[www.icohtec.org](http://www.icohtec.org)> for continuing information, dates, and deadlines.**

## Conference Announcements

### Rivers Run Through Them: Landscapes in Environmental History

**2006 ASEH Annual Meeting**

**St. Paul, Minnesota**

**March 29-April 2, 2006**

The American Society for Environmental History and Forest History Society Program Committee is pleased to welcome you to St. Paul, and to present "Rivers Run Through Them: Landscapes in Environmental History." Last winter we issued a call for papers and posters investigating not only landscapes in environmental history, but also the role of water in defining those landscapes. We were honored and impressed by the wealth of proposals, diverse, creative, and strikingly international. After all, if you follow a river long enough, you will come to a confluence. This conference will be a true intellectual confluence. Scholars will present work on landscapes from Africa to Israel to Florida to Australia, and rivers from the Amazon to the Elwha to the Hudson to the Mississippi. This work will be presented by historians, anthropologists, literary scholars, political scientists, geographers, city planners, and ecologists. Forest historians will travel from Southeast Asia to Finland to Maine to Michigan. In other sessions we will visit L.A.'s beaches, Ted Turner's ranches, Canada's uranium mines, and Korea's DMZ. Overall, the conference offers 80 panels and over 20 posters. The plenary session on environmental journalism will bring together three Pulitzer Prize winners, including Mark Schleifstein of New Orleans Times-Picayune. Writer Scott Russell Sanders will offer the keynote address, entitled, "Defining and Defending the Common Wealth." Other events will include a range of tours and breakfasts to offer participants both a broader view of the local landscape, as well as further opportunity to interact with colleagues from all over the world.

--Kathryn Morse, Program Committee Chair, Middlebury College



## Conference Announcements (Cont.)

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONNECTIONS Europe and the wider World**

The European Society for Environmental History invites proposals for panels and posters for its upcoming 4th conference in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 5-8 June 2007.

Environmental historians increasingly work on a global scale, addressing global issues or comparing local and national experiences with other locales. Given the interconnectedness of all parts of the planet in matters ecological, this makes excellent sense. Europe has had longstanding relationships with the rest of the world from the beginning of historical time, causing both enrichment and deprivation of biodiversity and habitats. Lively exchanges of men and other biota, and of environmental ideas, techniques and practices, existed with Asia and Africa already from Antiquity onwards, with the Americas, Australia and New Zealand from the end of the Middle Ages onwards. The Netherlands, a country with a long tradition of global exchange, was one of the first nations to foster environmental awareness.

The challenging theme for the 4th conference of the European Society for Environmental History in Amsterdam, hosted by the Vrije Universiteit (Free University) in Amsterdam is therefore

#### *Environmental connections: Europe and the wider World*

Proposals for panels and posters are invited, in particular for the following thematic strands:

- exchange of biota (both intentional and unintentional)
- exchange of environmental techniques and practices (in particular regarding water, such as for drainage, irrigation, preparation of drinking water, cleaning of waste water)
- climate changes
- environmental movements and organisations
- monitoring the resources of the earth

**Submission of abstracts: 1 February 2006 - 1 June 2006.**

Panel proposals should include a cover page with panel title, list of participants (including chair), and individual paper titles; a session abstract of 250 words, three individual paper abstracts of 250 words and a one-page c.v. for each participant. Poster proposals should consist of an abstract of 250 words and a one-page c.v.

Participation from scholars living in countries with financially low-level research and conference facilities is strongly encouraged.

Follow the conference news at the website of the ESEH: [www.eseh.org](http://www.eseh.org)