

Envirotech Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 2

October 2003

Envirotech Election Results

By Jim Williams

In a close election, Envirotechies chose Betsy Mendelsohn to replace Sara Pritchard as my co-chair. Betsy holds a teaching postdoc in the Division of Technology, Culture and Communication at the University of Virginia. Thanks to Joy Parr for standing for our election—and better luck next year, when it's my turn to step down!

It is with deep gratitude that I thank Sara Pritchard for her hard work in helping organize and in keeping Envirotech going over the past three years. I don't know exactly when Sara and I first talked about the need for a special interest group that could link together environmental and technological historians. But whenever the topic first came up, Sara was incredibly enthusiastic. It wasn't long before Envirotech became a "virtual" reality with an email discussion group, which Sara, then at Stanford University, set up. Suddenly we had 200 subscribers, and sheer momentum led us to call a "technology and nature" lunch meeting at the 2000 SHOT meeting in Munich. Sara quickly established herself as the real leader of Envirotech, guiding that little gathering into the establishment of Envirotech as a real special interest group in SHOT and smoothing the way for Envirotech to be a special interest group in ASEH as well.

Over the past three years, Sara has been the real inspiration in establishing goals for our twice-a-year gatherings at ASEH and SHOT. She has asked and gotten many of us to serve Envirotech in one way or another,

Envirotech Prize Approved

By Hugh Gorman

Early this April, the Society for the History of Technology's Executive Council cleared the final hurdle blocking the Envirotech Prize. The council approved a set of rules governing the awarding of prizes by all Special Interest Groups (SIGs) within the society. This step was necessary because Envirotech was the first SIG to try to establish a prize. We can finally award our prize!

The idea of awarding a prize was suggested during the Envirotech lunch that was held at the 2002 American Society for Environmental History conference in Denver. How, we asked, could we best use the relatively small amount of money collected from Envirotech members to further the interests of scholars working at the intersection of technology and the environment? We decided on a prize as a way to draw attention to work being done in this area. Awarding the prize at the lunch or breakfast meetings we hold will also add to those gatherings.

As an official Society for the History of Technology "special interest group" (SIG), Envirotech receives matching funds from SHOT that it can put toward activities at the annual meeting, and we decided to put those funds toward the award. The actual cash prize is modest, \$300, but being recognized by one's peers is just as important.

Ordinarily, the Envirotech Prize will be presented

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Envirotech Election

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and while my name appears as co-chair with her, I know that most of what Envirotech has accomplished in advancing interest and cooperation in our field wouldn't have happened if Sara hadn't been there doing it. Thank you Sara for saying yes to Envirotech, for being there for me and all of us.

Notes from the SHOT 2003 Meeting

By Erik Conway

Our meeting this year was a 0700 Friday morning breakfast get-together. Despite the unfavorable hour, 35 hardy souls attended. After enough coffee, Jim Williams opened the meeting by announcing the winner of our election for co-chair, Betsy Mendelsohn. Joy Parr, happy to have been let 'off the hook,' congratulated Betsy in absentia. Betsy begged forgiveness later for believing that the meeting was scheduled for a more civilized hour.

Business: Jim and Hugh Gorman announced the approval of the Envirotech Prize, and Hugh explained the award criteria and named the committee. Ten new members introduced themselves to the group, representing about a third of the attendees. Ann Greene collected dues and took the roll.

Announcements: Sarah Elkind announced that she was going to update her online collection of environmental history syllabi and asked for new material. Shane Hamilton of MIT announced that he was trying to organize a works-in-progress seminar for graduate students. Ed Russell announced that the University of Virginia would be funding graduate and post-doctoral fellowships and he solicited new reviewers for *Environmental History*. Steve Cutcliffe advertised a new position opening at Lehigh University,

and new member John Perkins solicited papers for the journal *Environmental Practice*.

Finally, at the SHOT annual banquet, Ed Russell was awarded the Edelstein Prize for his wonderful book, *War and Nature*.

Some scenes from the meeting:



“Monitoring the Environment” Seminar Held

By Erik Conway

On 17-18 July, the Society for the History of Technology and the American Society for Environmental History sponsored a seminar entitled “Monitoring the Environment.” Organized by Hugh Gorman and myself, the gathering was the result of the SHOT Executive Council’s interest in fostering interdisciplinary studies in history of technology and environmental history. SHOT secretary Bill Leslie had asked Hugh to organize the seminar, with the ‘ground rules’ that the conference bring together scholars from both organizations and continue SHOT’s tradition of fostering graduate student participation. Hugh offered me the privilege of co-organizing the seminar, and we immediately took up Phil Scranton’s offer of the Hagley Museum and Library’s excellent facilities as our venue.

We chose “environmental monitoring” as our topic because it seemed to us that there was very little historical literature on the subject, and it was clearly one that intersected with environmental history, history of science and technology, and public policy. It also intersected with our own research interests. My employer, for example, NASA, is engaged in a grand project to enable global environmental monitoring through space-based remote sensing—the Earth Observing System (nee Mission To Planet Earth.) The chance to think seriously about other attempts to construct environmental monitoring systems and standards was too good to pass up! Finally, the seminar format evolved from our decision to keep the meeting small in order to foster informal group discussion. Our call for papers drew 27 proposals, from which we chose 11. We had hoped to balance the program by

reference to three of the classical elements—“Earth,” or land use, air, and water—but to our surprise studies of air pollution were overwhelmingly dominant. We had also expected to see proposals focused on regulatory standard-setting, an important component of monitoring, but did not. On the other hand, we received a couple of proposals that approached the subject in ways we hadn’t considered. Hence Hugh and I had a bit of a struggle to construct a coherent program while keeping some of the innovative approaches, but in the end we wound up with a very interesting program.

In keeping with our decision to keep the meeting informal, the seminar opened on Thursday evening with a reception and a facilitated discussion led by Jeffrey Stine, a past president of ASEH. This discussion led to a wide-ranging conversation. We discussed the relevance of the topic to our disciplines and asked who else might be interested in the questions we were asking? We argued over the relationship between “local” and “scientific” knowledge and over the role scientists in different communities played in the development of instruments for environmental monitoring. We also addressed industry’s role. Finally, Phil Scranton raised the issue of scientists’ drive to reduce “the environment” to numbers (especially “1” and “0”) and the growth of state capacity to monitor and regulate—although we could not agree on a definition of “the state.”

During our three Friday sessions, we heard papers on subjects ranging from the pre-Civil War land surveys in the United States to the on-board diagnostics in late 20th century automobiles that, we were almost all surprised to learn, monitor everything but the tailpipe emissions they were originally conceived for. Some highlights

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News from the Membership

Sara Pritchard is disappointed to be missing SHOT for the first time since 1998. She is finishing up an 18-month postdoc at the University of Pennsylvania and will soon be heading to her new tenure-track job at Montana State University in mid-December where she is looking forward to recycling all her well-aged moving boxes. At MSU, she will be teaching courses on modern France and world history as well as contributing to the department's new interdisciplinary program, "Science, Environment, Technology, and Society," and its new Ph.D. program. Sara is still revising her manuscript on the development of the Rhone River, but it will be handed off to a press before heading west. Her article, "Reconstructing the Rhone: The Cultural Politics of Nature and Nation in Contemporary France, 1945-1997," will be coming out in *French Historical Studies* in Fall 2004. After serving as co-chair of Envirotech since 2000, Sara will be handing over the reins to a newly-elected co-chair at the Atlanta meeting. She would like to thank Jim Williams for being a great partner in Envirotech crime.

Karen Oslund has moved to the Library of Congress as a Mellon Fellow at the John W. Kluge Center (new email addresses: kosl@loc.gov or ko48@umail.umd.edu). There, she is starting a new research project, "Of Whales and Men: The North Atlantic as a Zone of Contested Cultural Politics and Scientific Ethics," which seeks to understand the politics of identity and resistance in the North Atlantic (Norway, Iceland, Greenland) by examining a series of environmental and ethical disputes, most importantly the international regulation of whaling. She is also editing a special issue of *Environment and History* on colonial environmental management in the Spanish Americas, British Africa, and the Dutch East

Indies, to appear next year.

Joy Parr, formerly of Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, has accepted a Canada Research Chair to establish a research and graduate teaching unit in 'Technology, Culture and Risk' at the University of Western Ontario. The unit is housed in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies. The graduate program will serve students in the UWO social science, engineering and communications faculties. addresses: jparr@uwo.ca; FIMS, 255 Middlesex College, University of Western Ontario, London ON N6A 5B8

Johnathan Coopersmith transmits: The history of the fax machine is slowly moving ahead -- I've changed analogies from "it's like socialism, still on the horizon," to "it's like WMD; I know it's there, we just haven't found it yet." I've raised the profile of my university twice this year by appearing on NPR to discuss the close intertwining between communications technologies and pornography. Any firm that claims to be maximizing profits and is not selling drugs or sex is lying. [I heard that!—Ed.]

Earth Duarte-Trattner writes: I am a doctoral Student at UC Berkeley in the Society and Environment Division of the Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management - studying with environmental historian Carolyn Merchant. I am doing a dissertation on the history of branding technologies in Colonial Mexico and California.

Steven Moore is an Associate Professor of Architecture and Planning at the University of Texas at Austin where he teaches design and courses related to the philosophy, history, and application of sustainable technology. In 1999 Moore was appointed Director of the *Sustainable Design Program* and in 2002 was appointed Co-director of the University of Texas Center for Sustainable Development. He re-

News from the Membership

continued

ceived his undergraduate degree in architecture at Syracuse University, his Ph.D. at Texas A&M University, is a Loeb Fellow of the Harvard Graduate School of Design and a Fellow of the National Endowment for the Arts. He has practiced as the design principal of Moore/Weinrich Architects in Maine and has received numerous regional and national awards for design distinction. He has recently published articles in *Center*, the *Journal of Architectural Education (JAE)*, and the *Journal of Architecture (JOA)*. His book, *Technology and Place: Sustainable Architecture and the Blueprint Farm*, was published by the University of Texas Press in 2001 and received the EDRA/Places award for research in 2002. *Sustainable ArchitectureS*, co-edited with Simon Guy, will be published by Routledge/Spon in 2004. Moore's research interests are broadly interdisciplinary and focus upon the social construction of sustainable technologies, buildings, and cities. In his research he employs methods derived from sociology and philosophy. Moore is currently working on a new book, *Forms and Governance: narrative and sustainable cities*. This project includes empirical case studies of Austin, Texas; Curitiba, Brazil; and Frankfurt, Germany that investigate the social processes through which those cities claim to have constructed sustainable built environments.

Timo Myllyntaus writes: Recently the proceedings of a Nordic conference of environmental history were published. The volume "Värna, vårda, värdera. Miljöhistoriska aspekter och aspekter på miljöhistoria" is edited by Erland Mårald and Christer Nordlund. It is published by the research project "Landskaper som arena" (Umeå 2003, 221 Pp., ISBN 91 7305 439 9). The book includes two articles in English:

Andrew Jamison, "Environmental Politics: From Move-

ment to Institutions," pp. 121-137.

Timo Myllyntaus, "Old Wine in New Bottles? Traditions of Finnish Environmental History," pp. 177-200.

The rest (13) of the 15 articles are published in Scandinavian languages.

Edmund Russell received the Edelstein Prize from the Society for the History of Technology for War and Nature: Fighting Humans and Insects with Chemicals from World War I to Silent Spring (Cambridge University Press, 2001). The prize is for an outstanding book on the history of technology published in the previous three years. Russell is an associate professor of Technology, Culture, and Communication and History at the University of Virginia.

Envirotech Prize *continued*

(Continued from page 1)

at the SHOT annual meeting, during the SIG's get together. The 2003 prize, however, will be awarded at Envirotech's meeting at the American Society for Environmental History's annual conference in Victoria, British Columbia, due to the delay in getting the prize approved. The prize committee, Hugh Gorman, Frank Uekoetter, and Sylvia Washington, will be accepting nominations until 1 December 2003. For submission details, see the advertisement on page 2.

ASEH and Forest History Society Seek Editor

The American Society for Environmental History and the Forest History Society are seeking a new editor for the journal, *Environmental History*. The current editor, Adam Rome, will be stepping down at the end of 2005, and his successor will be expected to begin taking on editorial responsibilities as editor-elect on January 1, 2005. As editor-elect, he or she will be responsible for evaluating new manuscript submissions, recruiting authors, and representing the journal at conferences. The editor-elect will assume the rest of the editor's responsibilities on October 1, 2005, and become editor with the January 2006 issue. Duties will include all activities associated with the editorial content of the journal—soliciting and commissioning articles as appropriate, screening submissions, and determining the contents of each issue. The editor will work with the production staff, book review editor, and graphics editor in the production process and the editorial board on policy matters.

Candidates should have a wide knowledge of and interest in the areas the journal covers and experience with academic editing. A successful applicant will need to demonstrate that he or she has the time and the institutional support to assume major responsibilities on January 1, 2005. For more information contact Head of the Search Committee, Jeffrey Stine, National Museum of American History, 202-357-2058; e-mail <stine@nmah.si.edu>.

Applications will be accepted by **February 20, 2004**, by e-mail to:
<stine@nmah.si.edu> and <stevena@duke.edu>.

Five hardcopies of the application plus supporting materials should be sent to the Editor Search Committee, Forest History Society, 701, Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27701.

Monitoring the Environment

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were Frank Uekoetter's talk on the Ringelmann chart, in which he demonstrated that a "bad" (to professionals) measure of air pollution remained a primary measure of air pollution for a half century because it was useful to laymen, James Longhurst's discussion of 'commodification' of air pollution indexes in 1970s Pittsburgh, and Craig Colten's study of state and inter-state efforts to come to grips with water pollution prior to 'federalization' of the problem in the late 1960s. Two papers, one by Betsy Mendelsohn and another by Kate Christian and her husband, Peter Leimgruber, represented preliminary results in two otherwise untouched areas, science as legal evidence and remote sensing. Finally, one paper drew considerable controversy in our after-session discussion. Through his work on Barry Commoner, Michael Egan presented the only challenge to the reductionism inherent in the modern, Western science.

Since the meeting, we've carried on a discussion about the themes lurking within the papers we've heard and in the topic more broadly by email. Acting on a suggestion by participant Alex Farrell, we're pursuing publication of five of the papers in a special issue of the journal *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*, and we're also considering an edited volume to encompass more of the papers. We may also solicit additional works for a volume, if we're able to attract a publisher. All in all, the seminar went very well. Just as importantly, we enjoyed it.

New Envirotech Listserv Owner Matthew Booker

Erika Monahan, hard-working former manager of the Envirotech list, is in Siberia this year, uncovering new material for her dissertation. Erika has only occasional email access. She has stepped down as list manager and has passed the responsibility to me. I am a long-time lurker on the Envirotech list and pleased to give back something to this online community. I am a doctoral student in American environmental history at Stanford and thank Gabrielle Hecht and Sara Pritchard for introducing me to the history of technology.

I am continually impressed by the depth and breadth of the knowledge expressed on this list. I hope we can continue to use it well.

A reminder about list management: much of the day to day management of this list is actually done by you, the list members.

FYI:

To stop receiving email from the list, send the following message to majordomo@lists.stanford.edu:

Unsubscribe envirotech [your email address]

If you know someone who would like to join, that person should send a similar message to majordomo@lists.stanford.edu:

Subscribe envirotech [email address]

There are other nifty commands within your power. You may view them at:

https://lists.stanford.edu/subscriber_commands.html

Best wishes, and in anticipation of meeting more of you in person,

Matthew Booker
mbooker@stanford.edu

The Fourth Matthew Fontaine Maury Workshop in the History of Oceanography

Will be held from September 1 to 3, 2004, in Barrow, Alaska (dates are still tentative). The theme for Maury IV is The History of Polar Oceanography. Historians of science, maritime, environmental, military, and other historical specialists who deal with the ocean sciences are invited to submit paper proposals. The Maury Workshops make every effort to cover the travel, lodging, and food expenses of its participants. Participation is by invitation only, based on acceptance of a paper abstract and short c.v., due by December 1, 2003. Completed papers are due by August 1, 2004, for pre-circulation. For information or to submit abstracts please contact:

Dr. Helen Rozwadowski: helen.rozwadowski@uconn.edu

Dr. David van Keuren: vankeuren@utopia.nrl.navy.mil.

About this newsletter. . .

This newsletter is put together by Erik Conway, primarily for electronic distribution in Adobe Acrobat format. If you'd like to receive it printed on bleached dead plant fibers or know someone who would, please contact the editor:

Erik: Garthilion@cox.net

Position Announcement: Environmental Policy and Politics.

Lehigh University's newly forming Environmental Initiative seeks an Associate or Full Professor for a position beginning August 2004. The successful candidate will teach courses in both the planned BA in Environmental Studies and MA in Environmental Policy programs offered through the Initiative. Specific fields of interest are open but might include U.S., international, or comparative environmental policy and politics. Opportunities for team-teaching and multidisciplinary research will be encouraged. Candidates should have an established program of research, publication, and external funding, as well as extensive and relevant teaching experience. The position will be a joint appointment within the Environmental Initiative and a department best suited to the successful candidate's field.

This position is one of a number of new faculty appointments to be made in science, engineering, social science, and humanities departments across the University in support of a multidisciplinary initiative focusing on the environment. The successful candidate will be expected to take a leadership role in further developing its degree programs.

Applicants must hold the PhD and should submit by e-mail a cover letter including a discussion of research interests and teaching experience, a vita, an offprint of a relevant article, and a list of three references with complete contact information, including mailing address, phone number, and e-mail, to: inpolicy@lehigh.edu

Prof. Sharon Friedman
Chair, Environmental Policy and Politics Search
Environmental Initiative
Lehigh University
31 Williams Drive
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Review of applications will begin December 1, 2003 and continue until the position is filled.

Further information about Lehigh's Environmental Initiative can be found at:
<http://www.ei.lehigh.edu>

Lehigh University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and committed to recruiting and retaining women and minorities.

***Guidelines for Awards and Prizes by
Special Interest Groups (SIG's) of the
Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)***
Adopted April 5, 2003

SHOT CONSITUTION

ARTICLE XI -- Special Interest Groups and Local Sections

Section 2. The Executive Council shall determine the criteria necessary for formal recognition of such groups and shall determine what rights and responsibilities shall be assigned to or vested in them.

GUIDELINES

Article I – Authority to Grant Awards and Prizes

Section 1. SHOT Special Interest Groups [hereafter designated as SIG's] may be granted the authority to grant awards or prizes for scholarship in their interest areas either on their own or in cooperation with other professional groups under the guidelines and with the restrictions laid out below.

Section 2. Proposals from SIGs to initiate prizes or awards, however, must be submitted to and approved by SHOT's Executive Council to become effective

Article II – Proposals for SIG Awards and Prizes

Section 1. Proposals for awards or prizes shall be submitted to the SHOT's Executive Council approximately a year before the prize shall be formally awarded in order to provide sufficient time for deliberation, negotiation, and proposal adjustment

Section 2. Proposals submitted to SHOT's Executive Council for SIG awards or prizes shall contain the following information:

- (a) Name of SIG, membership numbers for the past two years, attendance at SHOT SIG meetings for the past two years
- (b) Cooperating groups from outside the society, if any
- (c) Justification for the award or prize
[Is there a good reason to create yet another award or prize? How large is the prospective pool of scholarly publications that would be eligible for the award/prize each year?]
- (d) Financial arrangements for the award/prize
[Normally SHOT's Executive Council expects some guarantee of prize sustainability through means such as a restricted endowment or other guaranteed income flow. Good intentions are not sufficient.] [Note: *SHOT* matching funds may be used to support the prize if the SIG desires to use the funds in that manner, but additional SHOT funds shall not be available to support SIG prizes]
- (e) Method of solicitation and selection and prize/award guidelines
[What guidelines have been established to govern the proposed prize/award? How shall the prize winner be selected? For example, SHOT expects that, at minimum, a three-person rotating committee would be used for prize/award selection and that members of the selection committee would be ineligible for the prize/award. How shall information about the award/prize be disseminated? If a cooperating group is involved, what shall be its role in selection vis à vis the SHOT SIG?]
- (f) Frequency and location of presentation
[How frequently shall the prize be awarded? Where shall it be presented?]

Article III – Presentation of Awards/Prizes

Section 1. Once a SIG prize/award proposal has been approved, SIG's shall have autonomy in carrying out their procedures.

Section 2. The presentation of a SIG award/prize shall normally take place at an annual SIG meeting or in such other manner as the SIG shall decide. It shall not be presented at SHOT's annual awards banquet.

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***Guidelines for Awards and Prizes by
Special Interest Groups (SIG's) of the
Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)***

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SHOT's President or Secretary shall either offer a SIG spokesperson the opportunity to announce the prize winner without citation or at minimum call attention to SIG prizes as published in the annual awards banquet program.

Section 3. Any publicity dealing with the award or prize shall be worded in a manner that makes it clear that the prize or award is that of the SIG and not a prize or award of the Society for the History of Technology as a whole. For example, publicity about the prize or award should refer to "the <name of SIG> prize for ..." instead of "SHOT's prize for..." It would, however, be appropriate at another point in a publicity release to explain that the SIG is a sub-unit of the Society for the History of Technology.

Section 4. SHOT shall publicize SIG prizes or awards on its Web site and in its Newsletter, but such publicity shall include appropriately worded disclaimers that clearly differentiate the SIG prize/award from those awarded by SHOT.

Article IV – Oversight

Section 1. Each year the SIG shall submit to SHOT's Executive Council a brief report, similar to that submitted by SHOT's other prize committees, that provides, at minimum, the following information:

- (a) Composition of the Committee that made the prize/award selection and how it was selected
- (b) Committee's mode of operation (how the prize/award winner was selected)
- (c) Pool considered by the committee [i.e., approximately how many books or articles (for a book or article prize) or how many persons (for a service award) were considered by the committee]
- (d) Name of prize or award winner with justification/citation

Section 2. SHOT's Executive Council shall have the authority to revoke a SIG's prize/award granting authority for just cause, but shall provide a means for the SIG to provide input before making that decision.

Notes from the 2003 ASEH Meeting

By Sara Pritchard

The format for theme-based discussion groups like Envirotech at the American Society for Environmental History's meeting in Providence this year was changed. On Thursday and Saturday evening, six groups were scheduled each night during a general cocktail hour and reception. The reception format, not to mention cash bar, diminished our numbers this year, but a dozen die-hards attended.

After introducing ourselves and raising the issue of rotation in the so-called leadership and the constant problem of how to get discussion on the listserv jump-started, Steve Cutcliffe raised several great points for discussion. He was interested in members sharing their syllabi on courses at the intersection of environment and technology. This suggestion sparked a number of related suggestions such as circulating ideas about assignments (especially creative assignments), favorite novels to assign in such classes, favorite primary sources to use, favorite influential books of late...etc.



We are inviting nominations for the

Envirotech Prize for Best Article on the Interplay between Technology and the Environment in 2001/03

Envirotech, a special interest group within the Society for the History of Technology, will be awarding this prize for the first time. The Envirotech Prize will recognize the best article on the relationship between technology and the environment published in the three previous calendar years. We are particularly seeking innovative publications that explore new ways of thinking about the interplay between technological systems and the natural environment. In awarding this prize, preference will be given to graduate students and new scholars not more than five years past their Ph.D.s. Articles may be submitted in any language; however, for articles not written in English, the applicant will need to provide a translation. The Envirotech Prize carries a cash award and will be awarded at the conference of the American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) in Victoria, British Columbia, March 31 – April 4, 2004. The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2003. Self-nomination is encouraged.

Please submit one copy of your article, together with a brief curriculum vitae, to each of the committee members:

Hugh Gorman
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ICOHTEC 2004

The International Committee for the History of Technology will hold its 31st Symposium at Bochum/Germany, 17th - 21st August 2004

on

(Re-)Designing Technological Landscapes

Two centuries have altered significantly our understanding of the term "landscape". Centuries ago, in the age of comparatively immobile societies, the term "landscape" denoted an area which could be viewed from an elevated point; e. g., from a hill, an area which the inhabitants seldom left. Two hundred years ago the term "landscape" had already acquired different meanings, mainly:

1. for the scientist, an area replete with geological phenomena, with fauna and flora to be investigated in a scholarly way.
2. for the artist, a theme often romanticized, sometimes dramatized, for example in landscape painting.
3. for the cultural historian, a topic for analyzing the achievements of agrarian societies in their fight against natural forces, infertile soils and parasites, as well as attempts to overcome those shortcomings by technological means.

These "technologized" cultural areas had, in general, positive connotations because they seemed to offer their inhabitants a more constant and secure supply of raw materials, food and clothes.

Since then, significant changes have turned that original landscape into a proper "technological landscape". The developing infrastructure with its canals, roads, railroads and air traffic, but also activities to shape the countryside according to economic and social purposes, have changed the landscape significantly and have resulted in two phenomena which today are reflected in the term "global village":

1. Urban agglomerations that, after massive technical interventions, might be called "technotopes" rather than "landscapes".
2. The notion that nature is still an unaltered "unspoiled" privileged area and a pleasure to live in.

In developed industrial nations there is no longer any "untouched" nature. Besides, in the course of social differentiation processes, of economic globalization, and of increased international technical cooperation during the last decades, the criteria for defining a technological landscape have become increasingly blurred. Today it seems possible to perceive the world as one single technological landscape. In this sense, the technological landscapes to be examined at the 31st ICOHTEC Symposium can be regarded as subsystems. Therefore "technological landscapes" are regional phenomena whose original natural properties have been transformed by technological activities; they have developed into networks or systems.

Closer analysis reveals that over time different strata of "technological landscapes" have covered the already existing ones. Moreover, different historical traditions are one of the reasons why cooperation between strata has often been difficult. Some are competing with each other; others complement each other. Changes in one system have bearings on the other.

As hinted at above, a technological landscape should not merely be understood as an urban agglomeration; besides, it is not necessarily identical with the areas occupied by nation states. The term rather denotes those areas or regions that have developed some sort of technological identity, which makes them easily distinguishable from other areas or regions.

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ICOHTEC 2004

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The symposium program committee suggests the following themes to contributors:

- What concepts for setting up technological landscapes existed?
- To what extent were those concepts put into reality? (The emphasis should be on change and on comparisons between different concepts and attempts to implement them.)
- Who were the main actors; which factors advanced or hindered the development of technological landscapes?
- What were the political and social aims; how were these processes financed?
- What were the main technological aspects?
- What (perhaps singular) element(s) were particularly important in these processes?
- Which problems arose when people left less or more densely populated areas; what sort of challenges came up when new demands, for example ecological ones, had to be met?
- What about the reception of these developments in the arts and in the media?
- What has been the relationship of gender, ethnicity or race to technological landscapes?

(It would be desirable if the above issues and others suggested by contributors were investigated in a - chronologically and geographically - comparative perspective.)

The ICOHTEC Program Committee welcomes proposals for individual PAPERS and SESSIONS for the 31st Symposium in Bochum, Germany. Deadline for proposals is 1 February 2004. Membership in ICOHTEC is not required to participate in the symposium. Proposals for PAPERS should include: (1) 400-words (maximum) abstract in English; (2) short CV (1-page maximum). 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 (400 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 to the Program Committee by Email:

Barton Hacker, Chair of the Program Committee. Email: hackerb@si.edu

Maria Paula Diogo. Email: mop28980@mail.telepac.pt

Sue Horning. Email: ssh@gwis.com

Wolfgang Koenig. Email: martin@kgw.tu-berlin.de

If Email is unavailable, proposals may be sent by fax to Dr. Hacker: 202-357-1855. Otherwise they may be sent via regular mail, postmarked by 1 February 2004, to:

Barton Hacker, 150 12th Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20002, USA



Call for Papers

**Held in Conjunction with:
the 34th ASES Annual Conference and
the 30th National Passive Solar Conference**

Special Topic:

"The History of Solar Energy and ISES"

Co-Chairs: Renate Böer and Cesare Silvi

Dear Envirotech members:

It is a special pleasure, on behalf of the American Solar Energy Society, to invite you participate in the 2005 Solar World Congress in Orlando, Florida, August 6 - 12, 2005.

Envirotech members interested in participating in the Special Topic symposium on the history of solar energy are invited to contact the Scientific Technical Committee. Full details may be found at

<http://www.swc2005.org>.

Scientific Technical Committee:

Chair: James C. Williams, U.S.A., ICOHTEC Vice-President
<techjunc@pacbell.net>

Members: Gerhard Mener, Germany; Mana Moran, U.S.A.; John Perlin, U.S.A.; Anthony Stranges, U.S.A.; Richard Hirsch, U.S.A.

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Call for Papers

Papers may be submitted for sessions currently being organized and additional sessions may be proposed. Deadline for submissions is October 14, 2004. Session topics currently include:

1. Solar Energy in Past Civilizations

1. The Impact on the Biosphere
2. Technological Developments in Previous Societies
3. The Early Solar Pioneers and Achievements in the 19th and 20th Century

2. The First International AFASE/ISES Symposium in 1955

1. The Founding of AFASE and the changes to SES and ISES
2. ISES' Contribution to the Development of Solar Energy
3. The Role of National Governments, International Institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations in the development of Solar Energy

3. ISES and the Rise of Solar Energy since the 1970s

1. Global Driving Forces for Solar Energy
2. The Growing Importance of ISES' National Sections
3. New National Solar Energy Policies
4. Diversification of Solar Research and Development and Scientific Breakthroughs
5. First Commercial Productions and Applications

4. Solar Energy and ISES in the 21st Century

This session will be run jointly with the topic "Solar Energy and Society"

History of Technology/Environmental History

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow University of Virginia

The Committee for the History of Technology and the Environment brings together faculty from the School of Engineering and Applied Science and the College of Arts and Sciences in order to facilitate research and teaching in technological and environmental history. With support from the National Science Foundation, the Committee will appoint a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow for 2004-07.

The Committee seeks to appoint a Fellow who wishes to develop new ways to investigate the role of technology and environment in shaping human history. The Fellow will teach undergraduate courses in the Engineering School which integrate historical perspectives with professional communications and engineering ethics. The Fellow will also assist in developing a University-wide seminar on technological and environmental history and will interact with graduate students in the History Department. Additional information about the position and program may be found at: www.tcc.virginia.edu/news/chet-job

The Fellow will be appointed as a Lecturer for one year and may be renewed, subject to satisfactory performance, for up to three years total. The successful candidate will have graduate training and research experience in the history of technology, environmental history, or another appropriate specialty. Prior teaching experience is desirable. The candidate must have completed the Ph.D. by July 2004 and the appointment will begin in late August. The appointment includes competitive salary with benefits. Send letter of application, c. v., sample publication or paper, evidence of teaching, and three letters of recommendation to:

Professor W. Bernard Carlson
Division of Technology, Culture, and Communication
School of Engineering and Applied Science
University of Virginia
351 McCormick Road
P.O. Box 400744
Thornton Hall
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4744.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. The University of Virginia is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

“War and the Environment: Contexts and Consequences of Military Destruction in the Modern Age”
Conference at the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC
May 6-9, 2004

Conveners:

Charles Closmann (*German Historical Institute, Washington, DC*)

Christof Mauch (*German Historical Institute, Washington, DC*)

Wars have had major impacts on urban and natural environments. As a consequence of military campaigns and destruction, landscapes and cityscapes have been transformed, oceans and air have been polluted. At the same time, environmental factors, such as climate and the availability of resources, have influenced military strategies and the conduct of war. Some wars have been fought in order to gain access to natural resources. Others have been compared with natural events.

Our conference invites historians and social scientists to explore the nexus of environment and war from multiple perspectives. It seeks to bring together historians of culture, environment, technology, economics, etc. whose work deals with war, particularly since the onset of industrialization, anywhere in the world. We invite proposals addressing some of the following topics and questions:

- What immediate and long-term environmental consequences have wars and the use of modern destructive weapons had on nature (land, air, and sea) and natural resource policies? In what ways have such factors as nuclear radiation, pollution, toxification, and military installations (landmines etc.) contributed to the transformation of landscapes? How have they influenced agriculture and transportation?
- To what extent and in what ways have sites and installations of war (battlefields, fortifications, etc.) influenced the environmental and cultural alteration of landscapes?
- How has war affected urban environments (water supplies, transportation systems etc.), cityscapes, and patterns of settlement? What lessons did urban planners learn from wars, and how did they apply their experience in postwar reconstruction? To what extent did they take the prevention of future environmental damage into consideration?
- What types of environmental damage have military planners taken into account? How have the public and media reacted? To what extent has the growing awareness of environmental damage led to new legal regulations and military concepts in the course of the 20th century?
- What consequences have resulted from the storage of hazardous wastes at military sites? How have legal systems evolved to remediate toxic waste sites and compensate nearby residents—or soldiers—exposed to such materials? What military and legal discourses, and what policies have evolved in regard to burning oil wells, oil spills, and similar environmental disasters?
- What are the connections between war, science, and the environment? How has this complex relationship evolved over time?
- How has nature (or, for that matter, the social and cultural constructions of nature) been used to justify military aggression, conquest, and resistance? What role have comparisons between war and nature, or natural and military disasters, etc. played in politics and ideology? In turn, what military terms and strategies have been applied in environmental campaigns, for instance against ocean flooding, the “bio-invasion” of non-native species, etc.?

Proposals that deal with a variety of these issues, and papers that focus on comparisons (over time or between different wars) are especially welcome. However, we shall also accept case studies that address broader analytical questions about the relationship between war and the environment. Successful applicants will be invited to present their work at the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC.

Applications must be received by **January 15, 2004**. They should include a proposal not longer than 500 words and a brief CV. Please send applications to: B.Thomas@ghi-dc.org or send a fax to the German Historical Institute (202)-483-3430.

Environmental Initiative, Director

Lehigh University seeks a distinguished senior faculty member to serve as Director of its Environmental Initiative (EI). The EI is a multi-disciplinary effort to bring scientists, engineers, social scientists, and humanists together to focus their expertise on environmental research and education. The Director provides synergistic leadership for a multi-disciplinary group of faculty and staff across Lehigh's colleges: Arts and Sciences, Engineering and Applied Science, Business and Economics, and Education. The EI is part of a \$75M plan to invest in Lehigh academics.

Candidates must possess a national and/or international scholarly reputation in a field related to the environment; a commitment to excellence in graduate and undergraduate education; a successful record of external fundraising; familiarity with a university setting, preferably in an administrative capacity; and outstanding communication and leadership skills. Candidates must have the Ph.D., but the specific area is open and might include the environmental sciences, engineering, or the social sciences and humanities. The position will be a joint appointment within the Environmental Initiative and a department best suited to the successful candidate's field.

The Director will be responsible for working with the deans, department chairs, and faculty to build the EI. S/he will be responsible for developing, promoting, and overseeing new undergraduate and graduate level degree and non-degree programs, and for seeking external funding in support of those environmental programs. The Director should over time also expect to remain active as a scholar/teacher.

Review of applications will begin January 15, 2004 and continue until the position is filled. Candidates should submit a curriculum vita, a statement of educational philosophy and multi-disciplinary research opportunities in the area of the environment, and a list of four references with complete contact information.

Electronic submission is preferred: ineidire@lehigh.edu

Prof. Stephen Cutcliffe
Chair, EI Director Search
Lehigh University
31 Williams Drive
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Further information about Lehigh's Environmental Initiative can be found at: www.ei.lehigh.edu

Lehigh University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and committed to recruiting and retaining women and minorities.

Call For Papers: City, Industry, and Environment in Transatlantic Perspective Philadelphia, April 16-17, 2004

The Chemical Heritage Foundation invites proposals for papers on urban environmental history in North America, the British Isles, continental Europe, Latin America and other regions constituting the Atlantic world.

The conference will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from Friday, April 16th through Saturday, April 17, 2004. It will be hosted by the Chemical Heritage Foundation through the generous support of the Gordon and Mary Cain Foundation.

We welcome proposals that recognize the common experiences and contexts of American and European cities for understanding relationships among cities, manufacturing and commercial activities, and environmental consequences, responses, and challenges. We are particularly interested in research situated in the long nineteenth century. While case studies of cities or of industries in specific urban contexts are welcome, comparative studies and research that crosses geographies are especially encouraged. We also seek papers that explore ways that technological innovation, urban ideals, markets, and environmental conceptualizations linked cities across space. How, for example, did professional and informal networks of communication and knowledge in science, engineering, business, labor, law, politics, and medicine shape responses to environmental consequences of industrial and urban growth? How did responses by community members, reformers, and workers engage these groups in discourses across class, cultural, or political boundaries?

We aim to bring both established and younger scholars together to share their ongoing research as well as broader perspectives on themes and opportunities in urban environmental history. The conference will have a workshop format with a limited number of participants. Participants will give 10-15 minute presentations followed by discussion. We expect to be able to contribute to the cost of travel, lodging and meals for workshop participants.

The deadline for proposals is December 1, 2003. Proposals should be 250-500 words and accompanied by a short c.v. and an email contact address. Senior scholars who would like to participate as discussants are warmly encouraged to send a c.v. and statement of interest. Materials may be submitted electronically or by mail to the address below. Notification of accepted proposals will be made on or about December 31, 2003. Invited scholars will be asked to confirm participation by mid January 2004.

Please feel free to contact Donna Rilling, Chemical Heritage Foundation, with any questions.

Donna J. Rilling
Associate Professor, SUNY, Stony Brook and
Gordon Cain Fellow in Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Policy, 2003-04
Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2702
(215) 925-2222
(215) 925-2178 x317 (direct)
DonnaR@chemheritage.org

Position Announcement

James Madison University -U.S. History, specialization in public history, history of technology, or environmental history

Location: Virginia, United States

Institution Type: College/University

Position Type: Assistant Professor

Submitted: Monday, September 22nd, 2003

Main Category: U.S. History

Secondary Categories:

History of Science/Medicine/Technology

UNITED STATES HISTORY, with specialization in public history, history of technology, or environmental history. Candidates expected to contribute to the department's commitment to general education. Willingness to teach research methods preferred. James Madison University invites applications for a tenure-track position at the rank of assistant professor to begin late August 2004. Candidates must have the Ph.D., and should have teaching experience. Review of candidates will begin **November 21, 2003**. Applications and nominations should be received by that date to assure consideration. Preliminary interviews will be conducted at the AHA meeting in January. Send letter of application, c. v., transcript, and three letters of recommendation to the address given below. James Madison University is an equal opportunity/Affirmative Action/equal access employer and especially encourages applications from minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Contact Information:

Professor Dorothy Boyd-Rush
Chair, U.S. Search Committee
Department of History
James Madison University
MSC 2001
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807

Website: <http://www.jmu.edu>