

# Newsletter

Vol. 40, No. 2 April 2011

of the History of Science Society

## THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CHEMISTRY

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*In honor of the International Year of Chemistry, we have reprinted three articles — “Reunited (and It Feels So Good)”, “Palmer the Poisoner,” and “Through the Looking Glass” — all by James Voelkel, the Curator of Rare Books at the Chemical Heritage Foundation. These articles first appeared in Chemical Heritage, the magazine of the Chemical Heritage Foundation, and we are grateful for permission to reproduce them here.*

### REUNITED (AND IT FEELS SO GOOD)

*By James Voelkel*

English physician Henry Stubbe (1632–1676) was a man of strong convictions who did not hesitate to publish them. In fact, his superabundance of opinions and his inability to leave well enough alone make his books an excellent illustration of a feature of 17th-century publishing that 21st-century readers may not appreciate.



*Henry Stubbe’s biting critiques of the Royal Society, originally appended together but separated over time, were happily reunited by CHF [Chemical Heritage Foundation] 338 years after publication. Image courtesy of the Othmer Library of Chemical History, CHF; Roy G. Neville Historical Chemical Library, CHF.*

In the 17th century some books — particularly in England — grew by accretion. The result was complicated books in which earlier title pages often appear in the middle of a book, causing headaches for modern collectors and curators as they try to untangle questions of edition, issue, and state. An unhappy outcome is that

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a later edition is considered defective if it lacks one of its constituent parts. Happily, the Chemical Heritage Foundation's Othmer Library of Chemical History recently made a defective book whole by reuniting it with its other parts.

Stubbe combined a prodigious skill in Greek and Latin with a thorough knowledge of history and mathematics and a great respect for the ancient physicians. One day he heard a man quip that all ancient science was useless to the physician and did not so much as contribute to the cure of a cut finger. When pressed, the wag said that this was an opinion of Joseph Glanvill and the other members of the recently founded Royal Society. Outraged, Stubbe began writing an impassioned screed against the Royal Society.

His first target was Glanvill. After reading Glanvill's *Plus Ultra, Or, The Progress and Advancement of Knowledge Since the Days of Aristotle* (1668), Stubbe composed a scathing critique. He titled it *A Specimen of Some Animadversions upon a Book Entitled Plus Ultra, Or, Modern Improvements of Useful Knowledge Written by Joseph Glanvill, a Member of the Royal Society*, which he had printed in the spring of 1670. When the book arrived, Stubbe decided that his "To the Reader" note did not sufficiently express his outrage and that the title didn't contain enough vitriol. So he composed a new preface and a zingier title: *The Plus Ultra reduced to a Non Plus: Or, A Specimen of some Animadversions upon the Plus Ultra of Mr. Glanvill, wherein sundry Errours of Some Virtuosi are discovered, the Credit of the Aristotelians in part Re-advanced; and Enquiries ...* followed by 12 bullet points detailing his rebuttal of Glanvill. These additional seven sheets were printed and appended to the front of the book. A copy of the book in this state found its way to bibliophile Roy G. Neville, whose collection is housed in the Othmer Library.

In the meantime it had become clear to Stubbe that Thomas Sprat also needed to be taken to task for his *History of the Royal Society* (1667). To be sure, both Sprat and Glanvill had been almost giddy in their unabashed promotion of the Royal Society. Why else publish a laudatory history of a society that was barely five years old? Stubbe sought to bring them down to earth with another 1670 publication titled *Legends no Histories: Or, A Specimen of some Animadversions upon the History of the Royal Society* — which, after two long sentences further elaborating the contents, ended *Together With the Plus Ultra of Mr. Joseph Glanvill reduced*

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## History of Science Society

EXECUTIVE OFFICE (NEW ADDRESS, EFFECTIVE 16 AUG 10)

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### Moving?

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

### EDITORIAL POLICIES, ADVERTISING AND SUBMISSIONS

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

The *Newsletter* is edited and published in the Executive Office. The format and editorial policies are determined by the Executive Director in consultation with the Committee on Publications and the Society Editor. All advertising copy must be submitted in electronic form. Advertisements are accepted on a space-available basis only, and the Society reserves the right not to print a submission. The rates are as follows: Full page (7 x 9.25"), \$625; Horizontal or Vertical Half page (7 x 4.6"), \$375; Quarter page (3.5 x 4.6"), \$225. The deadline for insertion orders is six weeks prior to the month of publication and should be sent to the attention of the HSS Executive Office. The deadline for news, announcements, and job/fellowship/ prize listings is firm: Six weeks prior to the month of publication. Long items (feature stories) should be submitted eight weeks prior to the month of publication. Please send all material to the attention of the executive office: [info@hssonline.org](mailto:info@hssonline.org).

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## Notes from the Inside

### NSF Awards HSS Travel Grant

After some months of anxiety regarding the status of the Society's latest application for travel grants for graduate students, independent scholars, and recent PhDs to attend the annual meetings, I was delighted to learn that the National Science Foundation has funded this important grant. The anxiety — a byproduct of these types of appeals and the fact that our prior grant had expired — was intensified by the talk of severe budget cuts in the history of science at NSF. That the panel and NSF chose to fund this latest application speaks to the many supporters and friends we enjoy in the field.

The new grant marks a departure in several ways from earlier travel grants, which have been a vital part of HSS meetings since the mid 1990s. As an accommodation to the budget crisis in the US, the grant's duration was reduced from 5 to 3 years (for the 2011, 2012 and 2013 conferences) and, most significantly, only those who are US citizens or who are attending US schools are eligible. (This is an unfortunate development that we hope we can correct, in part, by raising money for non-US scholars to attend our conferences.) The biggest change, though, is the expansion of the grant to include other academic societies. Earlier grant iterations involved 4 Societies: HSS, PSA, SHOT, and 4S. This new version expands the list to 7 societies: HSS, PSA, SHOT, the American Society for Environmental History (ASEH), the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science (HOPOS), the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB), and the International Society for the Psychology of Science and Technology (ISPST). (I had hoped to include the American Association for the History of Medicine but NSF will not fund AAHM in this way.) The main reason for the expansion was to foster closer ties with these groups, many of which are familiar to our members. I know the officers and/or presidents of all but one of these organizations and have been impressed by the work that they do. I was able to meet with officers from PSA, ISHPSSB, and HOPOS in Montréal to explore some of the collaborative features of the grant and came away from that meeting with a new enthusiasm for working together. As disciplinary boundaries increasingly blur, this type of collaboration will become all the more important to the history of science.

Application forms for the travel grants will become available on the HSS website, shortly after the publication of the preliminary program (only those participating in the program are eligible). Applicants to the other societies' conferences will need to contact the individual societies for information about their grants. HSS will provide administrative oversight for all of the grants, including the annual audits, standardization of forms and procedures, reimbursement of the societies, annual reports, etc. It should be noted, and with emphasis, that the direct costs associated the administration of these grants are not covered entirely by the grant itself. In fact, the grants would not be possible without your membership in the HSS and from the generous support of the Executive Office by Notre Dame. We view such administrative oversight as a courtesy to the profession, a courtesy that would not be possible without your membership and support.

Thank you for your membership in the HSS.

*- Jay Malone, HSS Executive Director*

### NOTRE DAME'S REILLY CENTER SEEKING RESEARCH ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The University of Notre Dame's Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values (<http://reilly.nd.edu/>) is a privately endowed center that is home to a wide array of educational, research, and outreach programs. We host a five-year, Arts & Letters/Engineering dual-degree program, an undergraduate Science, Technology, and Values Program, and a Graduate Program in History and Philosophy of Science. We sponsor conferences on topics ranging from the regulation of nanomaterials and the impact of Darwin in the 21st century to the history of astronomy and Galileo and the Church. A book series, an e-journal, online lectures, and ethics workshops bring our faculty and students into contact with a broad campus constituency, policy makers, and the general public. We welcome a diverse group of visiting scholars in the Center. A rapidly expanding research agenda includes collaborations with scientists and engineers working on nanotechnology, environmental change, advanced diagnostics and therapeutics, genomics, and many other topics. Among our own research projects is a multifaceted initiative on the ethics of emerging weapons technologies.

The Reilly Center now seeks to hire a Research Assistant Director. This Ph.D.-level position will provide support and direction for the Center's research collaborations and initiatives. We seek an individual with training and experience in the sciences, engineering, science policy, the history, philosophy, or sociology of science, or other relevant disciplines and with a serious commitment to exploring questions about the ethical and societal impacts of science and technology. Experience in grant writing is essential. Strong leadership potential, communication skills, and management experience will all be advantages. In addition to coordinating the Center's research activities, this individual will be expected to produce original research on topics related to the Reilly Center's mission.

The Research Assistant Director will report to the Reilly Center's incoming Director, Prof. Don Howard, and will join a team that includes an Assistant Director for Educational Programs, a Communication and Outreach Coordinator, an Administrative Assistant, and the fifty Notre Dame faculty who are Reilly Center Fellows. The salary will be commensurate with the candidate's experience and skill level.

#### APPLICATION PROCESS:

Please apply online at <http://ND.jobs> to Job #11131 or visit <https://jobs.nd.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=56618>. For further information about the Reilly Center and its many programs, please visit our web site: <http://reilly.nd.edu>. Queries about the Assistant Director position should be directed to Prof. Don Howard, Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values, 453 Geddes Hall, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556, 574-631-7547/1147, [dhoward1@nd.edu](mailto:dhoward1@nd.edu).

Interested applicants should submit to the same address: (1) a formal letter of application outlining one's background, qualifications, and career goals; (2) a curriculum vitae; (3) a 3-4 page statement of research interests and research projects that one would like to pursue; and (4) contact information for at least three references. The review of applications will begin at the end of April 2011.

For additional information about working at the University of Notre Dame and various benefits available to employees, please visit <http://hr.nd.edu/why-nd>. The University of Notre Dame is committed to diversity (<http://diversity.nd.edu/>) in its staff, faculty, and student body. As such, we strongly encourage applications from members of minority groups, women, veterans, individuals with disabilities, and others who will enhance our community. The University of Notre Dame, an international Catholic research university, is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

## NEWS AND INQUIRIES

### History of Heart Transplantation Lecture

On 25 January 2011, Dr. David Cooper presented a lecture on Christiaan Barnard and the history of heart transplantation to the C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Cooper, when he was in Capetown, performed heart transplants with Barnard, and so has first-hand stories of the man and his work. This presentation is now available for viewing online at:

<http://mediasite.cidde.pitt.edu/mediasite/Viewer/?peid=0934815fd4154df984f71032e0fe61d1>

### New Open Access to the *Isis* Bibliography

*By Stephen P. Weldon, HSS Bibliographer*

I am pleased to announce two new ways to access the *Isis Bibliography*, making large portions of the bibliography freely available to researchers worldwide. First, the HSS website now provides open access copies of the last several published bibliographies (from 2004 to 2009, reserving only the most recent volume for subscribing members). These are all searchable PDF documents that include all relevant front and back matter as well as bookmarks for easy navigation within the document.

Second, the *Isis Bibliography* data can now be accessed in database form through WorldCat.org, a free, open-access database hosted by OCLC. Currently, this data comprises that from CBs 2000 to 2009. The source of our data is noted in every record as “ISIS Bibliography of the History of Science; History of Science, Technology, and Medicine Database.” Since the WorldCat.org database includes records from resources all over the world, having our records tagged this way means that anyone pulling up one of our records will know where it came from, and

will see that the Society has contributed directly to this worldwide open scholarship initiative.

In addition, a particularly useful filter exists for historians who seek to look just at the *Isis* data. By adding “xisi2” in the keyword search box, in addition to any other search words, only *Isis* data will be returned. All of this makes WorldCat.org a perfect place for accessing bibliographical data for individuals who are neither Society members or who are unaffiliated with a library subscribing to the HSTM database. Those using WorldCat.org, will find that it is not as robust a search engine as OCLC’s subscription search engine — subject index terms, for example, are not displayed — nor does this database contain the most recent data; here again, the data from the most recent year’s bibliography is withheld. The WorldCat.org database, however, offers the great advantage of providing an open resource for researchers of all kinds to find peer-reviewed and scholarly citations.

Those who would like to try this search engine can go directly to the url: <http://www.worldcat.org/> or they can go to the *Isis CB* website, where I have included a search box on the front page with a brief discussion of its use and limitations:

<http://www.ou.edu/cas/hsci/isis/website/index.html>.

### 19th Century American Science Website Announcement

Clark A. Elliott’s website on 19th-century American science has a new URL: <http://historyofscienceintheunitedstates-19thcentury.net>

Although the content remains the same, the design and layout are newly refurbished (by Andrew J. Elliott). The site features aids for research produced through 2007, including bibliographies of reference works, books (by subject), and a searchable chronology of science in the United States, 1790–

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1910. Also available on the site is a downloadable bibliography (in Excel) of books on all periods of American science (not just the 19th century). This compilation is taken from the new books section of the Forum for the History of Science in America newsletter, *News & Views*, from 1980 to 2007.

### Dissertations in the History of Science and Technology

The latest group of recent doctoral dissertations pertaining to the history of science and technology can be viewed at the following URL:

<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/histmed/dissertations>

### Colloquium: 50th Anniversary of Eisenhower's Farewell Address

An afternoon seminar commemorating the 50th anniversary of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Farewell Address took place Tuesday, January 18, in the AAAS Auditorium in downtown Washington. AAAS and the Consortium for Science, Policy, and Outcomes (CSPO) of Arizona State University cosponsored the seminar. President Eisenhower's address is mainly remembered for his warning of the perils of a "military-industrial complex." Less widely known, but no less important was his caution, a few sentences later, about "the danger that public policy could itself become the captive of a scientific-technological elite." This seminar explored the historical context and current relevance of Eisenhower's worries about this scientific-technological elite. The seminar featured a panel of veteran science policy observers moderated by Steve Lagerfeld, editor of *The Wilson Quarterly*. Joining Lagerfeld on the panel were: Dan Greenberg, science journalist and author of several books on science policy, Gregg Pascal Zachary, author of the authoritative biography of Vannevar Bush, William Lanouette, a journalist on science policy and from 1991 to 2006 a senior analyst on energy and science issues at GAO, and Dan Sarewitz, co-director of CSPO.

Further Information:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtIZBcWBcis>

### CFP: *KronoScope: Journal for the Study of Time*

Edited by an international board of scholars and representing the interdisciplinary investigation of all subjects related to time and temporality, the journal is dedicated to the cross-fertilization of scholarly ideas from the humanities, fine arts, sciences, medical and social sciences, business and law, design and technology, and all other innovative and developing fields exploring the nature of time. *KronoScope* invites critical contributions from all disciplines; we accept submissions on a continuing basis. Manuscripts of not more than 8000 words, and using *The Chicago Manual of Style*, may be submitted electronically to the Managing Editor Dr. C. Clausius at [cclausiu@uwo.ca](mailto:cclausiu@uwo.ca). We also welcome review articles as well as creative work pertaining to studies in temporality. For further submission guidelines, please visit the Brill website at: <http://www.brill.nl/kron> or the International Society for the Study of Time website at <http://www.studyoftime.org/>

### CFP: *Expositions (Villanova University)*

*Expositions* is an on-line journal where scholars from various disciplines gather as colleagues to converse about common texts and questions in the humanities. We seek to publish two types of contributions: Articles that either have an interdisciplinary character and appeal or are exemplary in their respective disciplines while being of interest to those from other disciplines, or notes, insights and reflections on Teaching the Great Books that benefit teaching, research, and the life of the academy. These contributions include: "notes" that reflect upon or challenge existing scholarship; and, "insights" that provide intriguing new paths of interpretation and close analysis of a text and/or that are just too exuberant, provocative, or risky to fit in an ordinary article. Word-length will typically be 1,000 to 3,000. Our next issue will appear in April 2011.

For more information, contact Greg Hoskins ([gregory.hoskins@villanova.edu](mailto:gregory.hoskins@villanova.edu))  
Phone: (610) 519-8100; Fax: (610) 519-5410.

### D.C. Art & Science Evening Rendezvous (DASER)

D.C. Art & Science Evening Rendezvous (DASER) partnered with Leonardo (<http://www.leonardo.info/>), the International Society for the Arts, Sciences, and Technology, to present D.C. Art and Science Evening Rendezvous (DASER), a monthly discussion forum on art and science projects in the national capital region. DASERs provided the public with a snapshot of the cultural environment of the region and fostered interdisciplinary networking. The monthly series began on 16 February 2011 at 6 p.m. at the Keck Center. Historically, the artist has communicated, educated, and preserved the ideas of science. But how is the work of scientists, engineers, physicians, and experts from other disciplines informed by the creative processes of artists? How do artists use science and technology to advance the creative and cultural discourse? In the D.C. metropolitan area, practitioners from many institutions, including universities, museums, and embassies are interested in the ways that various disciplines inform one another with tangible results. Each DASER featured presentations by such practitioners along with time for discussion and socializing.

The February 16 kick-off event included presentations by Lee Boot, associate director, Imaging Research Center, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Carol Christian, scientist, Space Telescope Science Institute, Baltimore; Gunalan Nadarajan, vice provost, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore; and Thomas Skalak, vice president for research and professor of biomedical engineering, University of Virginia, Charlottesville. Upcoming DASERs are scheduled on April 21, May 19, June 16, and July 21, 2011. Future speakers include Pamela Jennings of the Computer & Information Science & Engineering Department, National Science Foundation, Arlington, Va., Max Kazemzadeh, assistant professor of art and media technology, Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C., and Jane Milosch, director, WWII-Era Provenance Research Project, Smithsonian Institution.

### Publication of Special Issue of *Atlantic Studies*

A recent special issue of *Atlantic Studies* was dedicated to science and medicine in the Atlantic world: “Itineraries of Atlantic science — new questions, new approaches, new directions.” This special issue contains 5 original essays, an editorial introduction, an interview with Bernard Bailyn, a set of collective reflections on the 2009 Harvard International Seminar on Atlantic History, and three book reviews. Two additional essays, which because of space constraints were not able to be included in this issue, are forthcoming in Volume 8.1. For further questions, contact: Neil Safier [neil.safier@ubc.ca](mailto:neil.safier@ubc.ca) Assistant Professor of History, University of British Columbia, Vancouver and Co-Editor *Atlantic Studies: Literary, Cultural, and Historical Perspectives*.

Further Information:

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14788810.asp>

### “Property and the Biosciences” Videos Available Online

Videos from the “Intellectual Property and the Biosciences” symposium, held on 7 July 2010 at the University of Leeds as part of the White Rose IPBio Project, are now available for free viewing and download. The day offered perspectives from a range of disciplines and domains, including history of science, social studies of science, legal studies, patent law and science policy. The speakers were Robert Cook-Deegan (Duke), Daniel Kevles (Yale), Bronwyn Parry (Queen Mary), Jane Calvert (Edinburgh), Aurora Plomer (Sheffield), Antony Taubman (World Trade Organization), Lady Lisa Markham (Harrison Goddard Foote, patent attorneys, Leeds) and Rebecca Eisenberg (Michigan). The symposium marked the public launch of the White Rose IPBio Project, which brings together staff and students from across the White Rose universities (York, Sheffield and Leeds). The aim is to stimulate better understanding of the role of intellectual-property arrangements, past and present, in shaping the biological and biomedical sciences and their impacts.

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For more information on the project, please contact Greg Radick at [G.M.Radick@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:G.M.Radick@leeds.ac.uk). To join the wider IPBio Network, please contact Berris Charnley at [berris@ipbio.org](mailto:berris@ipbio.org).

Further Information:

<http://ipbio.org/WRIPBiomedica.htm>

### Bioinformatics as an Adaptable Model for HPS Informatics

AAAS and HSS members Manfred D. Laubichler and Jane Maienschein argue in AAAS's *Scientia* blog that embracing bioinformatics will enable members of the history and philosophy of science community to carry out their individual studies while contributing to collaborative enterprise.

Further Information:

<http://membercentral.aaas.org/blogs/scientia/bioinformatics-adaptable-model-hps-informatics>

### CFP: *Feminism & Psychology* Special Issue

Jeanne Marecek and Nicola Gavey will edit a Special Issue of *Feminism & Psychology*: "DSM-5 and Beyond: A Critical Feminist Dialogue." Psychiatric diagnoses wield considerable influence in western high-income countries, helping to shape everyday understandings of what is normal and what is abnormal. They also undergird structures of funding for treatment and shape its very nature. Feminists and others have pointed to cultural, social and political influences on the system and practice of psychiatric diagnosis. They have highlighted ways diagnoses have been deployed to legitimize patriarchal, racist, colonial, heteronormative and other regimes of power. Yet despite such critiques, diagnoses increasingly give meaning to private experiences and personal identities and provide a lens through which we view social life. Not surprisingly then, the impending release of the DSM-5 (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition), scheduled for May 2013, has generated overwhelming public interest. This Special Issue carries forward the tradition of critical feminist scrutiny of psychiatric diagnosis and of the interplay between psychiatry and the cultural imaginary. We

call for work concerning psychiatric diagnosis — its history, its uses and misuses in the mental health fields (especially in regulating masculinities, femininities, and sexual expression), its deployment in popular culture and everyday talk — and its implications for feminist theorizing of psychological suffering, feminist research, and applied feminist practice. Possible topics include:

- The proliferation of diagnostic categories, as well as "conceptual bracket creep" (the tendency for diagnostic criteria to expand over time, so that more and more everyday experience is deemed pathological and said to require professional intervention).
- Conflicts of interest in the psychiatric and psychological professions that may affect diagnostic practices; the colonization of psychiatry by pharmaceutical interests
- Examinations of the epistemological features of DSM-style diagnoses (e.g., the disease model, biological reductionism, universalism, and "categoricalism") and implications for feminist theory and practice.
- Critical histories of efforts by feminists and other progressive groups to influence diagnostic categories and practice. What can we learn from their successes and failures?
- Critical analyses of how conventional diagnosis practices inhibit or facilitate feminist and other critical approaches to research, practice, psychotherapies, and social action.

We invite articles (up to 8000 words), brief reports (up to 3000 words), and commentaries (up to 2000 words). (Note that these word limits include reference lists.) We discourage submissions that focus on a single diagnostic category, unless the analysis illuminates broader theoretical, epistemological, or conceptual concerns. Submissions will be subject to the usual review process. To discuss a possible submission or the scope of the issue or to submit a manuscript, contact Jeanne Marecek at [jmarecel@swarthmore.edu](mailto:jmarecel@swarthmore.edu). Closing date for submissions is 15 November 2011.

Further Information: <http://fap.sagepub.com/>

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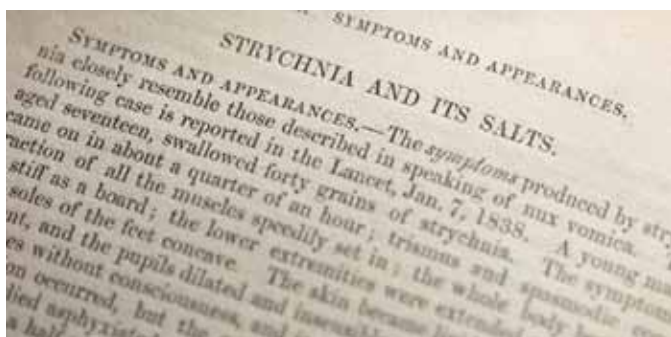
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to a *Non Plus*, &c. He appended this title, 11 other sheets of front matter, and 127 new pages of text to the front of *The Plus Ultra reduced to a Non Plus*.

In 2008 a book dealer advertised a defective copy of Stubbe's *Legends no Histories* that was lacking the *Plus Ultra reduced to a Non Plus*. Though unappealing to collectors, for a research library already holding the other piece of the puzzle, it was kismet. The Othmer Library purchased the book, reuniting the pieces. As a bonus, bound in with this defective book was yet another book, the final part of Stubbe's 1670 string of rants against the Royal Society, *A Censure upon Certain Passages Contained in the History of the Royal Society, As being Destructive to the Established Religion and Church of England*.

### PALMER THE POISONER

By James Voelkel



Alfred Swain Taylor, author of *A Treatise on Poisons in Relation to Medical Jurisprudence, Physiology, and the Practice of Physic*, was often called as an expert witness at trials, including that of William Palmer.

An estimated 30,000 people gathered outside Stafford Prison on 14 June 1856 to witness the hanging of William Palmer, also known as Palmer the Poisoner. His had been the trial of the century, gripping the public imagination in Victorian Britain. The case was so notorious that, to avoid a

prejudiced jury, the trial was moved by a special act of Parliament from its local jurisdiction to the Old Bailey in London (which served only to heighten interest in the case).

After training in medicine, Palmer returned to his native Rugeley in Staffordshire, married a local woman, and seemed destined for the quiet life of an English country doctor. But one element of country life proved to be his undoing—horses. Within a few years his obsession with horseracing and betting led him essentially to abandon his practice. He fell deeply into debt and—inexplicably—his closest relatives started dying.

First to die was his mother-in-law, in Palmer's home in 1849. Palmer's wife inherited a trust that upon her death would revert to the mother-in-law's family. Palmer then took out three life insurance policies on his wife totaling £13,000. Mrs. Palmer died in September 1854. In January of the following year, Palmer insured his brother Walter, again for £13,000. Walter died that August. The insurance companies, now suspicious, refused to pay and assigned a private detective to the case. Palmer's now desperate financial state led to another alleged murder. In November his associate and betting partner John Parsons Cook won a handsome sum, then grew strangely ill. Palmer collected the winnings, and after several days of his ministrations, Cook too died.

At this point the father of English toxicology, Alfred Swain Taylor (1806–1880), became involved. Taylor had written the book on poisons, *A Treatise on Poisons in Relation to Medical Jurisprudence, Physiology, and the Practice of Physic* (London, 1844). When an inquest was called into Cook's suspicious death, the stomach contents and viscera went to Taylor at Guy's Hospital in London for chemical analysis.

Taylor was at the height of his career. The pioneering toxicologist had been Lecturer in Medical

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Jurisprudence at Guy's for 25 years, his *Manual of Medical Jurisprudence* was in its fifth edition, and he was a seasoned and effective witness for the prosecution. He became the star witness in the case, ensuring Palmer's conviction.

Ironically, it was not chemical analysis that sealed Palmer's fate. Taylor testified that strychnine—which Palmer had purchased in the days before the murder but could not account for—was difficult to test for even in controlled laboratory conditions. Instead Taylor told the court that the spasms Cook displayed in his paroxysms of death could occur only in cases of tetanus and strychnine poisoning. With tetanus ruled out, Taylor deduced poison.

Even after his conviction Palmer never confessed to the crime. He went to the gallows saying, "I am innocent of poisoning Cook by strychnine," an enigmatic denial that, paired with ambiguous forensic evidence, has created an enduring mystery.

### THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

*By James Voelkel*

Among the defining characteristics of the scientific revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries were the invention and development of new scientific instruments. The thermometer and barometer enabled experimenters to quantify heat and air pressure. The vacuum pump made it possible to manipulate the physical environment. And then there was the creation of the telescope and the microscope, which expanded the range of human senses.

After the publication of Galileo's spectacular telescopic observations in 1610, the race was on to apply the magnification technology to the mundane world. But microscopes were more difficult to make and observations depended a great deal on the skill of the observer wielding what was essentially a glass bead functioning as a really powerful magnifying glass.

Easily the most skillful user of the single-lens microscope was Antoni van Leeuwenhoek (1632–

1723). Although he did not have a university education, nor mastery of Latin—the language of science—van Leeuwenhoek was nonetheless a devoted student of nature and a talented microscope maker.

He was responsible for the discovery of blood cells, spermatozoa, protozoa, and bacteria, among other things. Despite his modest background, the scientific world beat a path to his door in Delft, Holland, and he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of London in 1680.

At the time, the Royal Society was home to another of the world's foremost microscopists, Robert Hooke (1635–1703). Although also from a modest background, Hooke landed in the center of English science, making important contributions in the theory and practice of a number of different disciplines. His most notable book is *Micrographia, Or Some Physiological Descriptions of Minute Bodies Made by Magnifying Glasses with Observations and Inquiries Thereupon* (London, 1665).

Hooke had constructed a serviceable compound microscope, complete with focused light source, which did not give him as much magnification as van Leeuwenhoek's, but was far easier to use. He published a series of observations he conducted as curator of experiments for the Royal Society, mostly of natural objects. (Hooke coined the word *cell* in its biological sense.) Hooke's research was a showpiece for the young Royal Society, and his work was published in *Micrographia*, in a large folio with magnificent foldout engravings that remains a much sought-after landmark of scientific printing.



### Soliciting Nomination for 2011 Forum for the History of Science in America Article Prize

The Forum for the History of Science in America has begun gathering articles for its 2011 Publication Prize. Here are the eligibility criteria:

- Any article published in the English language in a professional journal issue (or chapter in a multi-authored edited volume) dated 2008, 2009 or 2010 and
- Authored by a scholar(s) who received a PhD in 2001 or afterward (i.e. recent PhDs and graduate students are eligible for the article prize),
- On a topic in American Science (“American” loosely defined to include the western hemisphere, “science” conservatively defined to exclude articles focusing on either the “clinical and social history of medicine” or the “history of technology”).

Authors are encouraged to self-nominate. Please submit pdfs of published articles to David Spanagel: [spanagel@wpi.edu](mailto:spanagel@wpi.edu) between now and July 31, 2011.

### Forum for History of Human Sciences

#### 2011 FHHS Calls for Prize Submissions

**2011 FHHS/JHBS John C. Burnham Early Career Award:** The Forum for History of Human Science (an interest group of the History of Science Society) invites submissions for the John C. Burnham Early Career Award for 2011. This award is intended for scholars, including graduate students, who do not hold a tenured position and are not more than seven years past the PhD. Unpublished manuscripts dealing with any aspect of the history of the human sciences are welcome. The winning article will be announced at the annual History of Science Society meeting, 3–6 November 2011, in Cleveland, and will be submitted to the *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* with FHHS endorsement, to undergo the regular review process. If the article is accepted for publication, the publisher of *JHBS* will announce the award and issue a US \$500 honorarium. The manuscript cannot be submitted to any other journal and still qualify for this award. Email manuscript and

curriculum vitae (PDF format) by 15 June 2011, to [weidman@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:weidman@fas.harvard.edu).

**2011 FHHS Article Award:** The Forum for History of Human Science awards this prize (a non-monetary honor) for the best recent article on some aspect of the history of the human sciences. The winner will be announced at the annual History of Science Society meeting, 3–6 November 2011, in Cleveland, and will be publicized in the FHHS Newsletter and in publications of several other organizations (e.g., HSS, Cheiron). Eligible articles must have an imprint date from 2008 to 2010 inclusively. Entries are encouraged from authors in any discipline as long as the publication is related to the history of the human sciences. Deadline: 15 June 2011. Email PDF version of the article to [weidman@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:weidman@fas.harvard.edu). Further information: <http://www.fhhs.org>

#### News from Montréal

During the annual meeting of the History of Science Society in Montréal, FHHS met for its business meeting on 6 November 2010, and awarded the following prizes: 2010 FHHS Dissertation Award to Daniel B. Bouk (Colgate University), “The Science of Difference: Developing Tools for Discrimination in the American Life Insurance Industry, 1830–1930,” PhD diss., Princeton University, 2009. The 2010 FHHS/JHBS John C. Burnham Early Career Award goes to Laura Stark (Wesleyan University), for her manuscript, “The Science of Ethics: Deception, the Resilient Self, and the APA Code of Ethics, 1966–1973,” recently published, under the same title, in *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 46:4 (Fall 2010): 337-370. John Carson (University of Michigan) was elected to a two-year term as new chair of FHHS. David K. Robinson (Truman State University) becomes past-chair and promises to continue supporting Forum work. After the business meeting, the Forum and guests enjoyed the FHHS Distinguished Lecture, by Mary S. Morgan (London School of Economics and University of Amsterdam): “Recognising Glass Ceilings and Sticky Floors.” FHHS’s Sponsored Session at HSS convened later on Saturday afternoon: “Reexamining the Uneasy Partnership: Economics, the Nation State, and the Public Welfare, 1920s-1980s,” with papers by Thomas A. Stapleford, Tiago Mata, and Mark Solovey, and comment by Sarah Igo.

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### Important News for HSS Members

On 3 January 2011, the webpages of the journals published by the University of Chicago Press, which includes *Isis*, joined the Current Scholarship Program and are now hosted within the JSTOR domain ([www.jstor.org](http://www.jstor.org)). This does not change the publishing arrangements for the HSS, nor does it at all affect members' subscriptions; the only change will be that members will access *Isis* and *Osiris* at their new online home within the JSTOR website.

The look of the online journals for UCP will change as well. With improved readability and organization, we've maintained equivalent functionality while taking advantage of the integration of the JSTOR backfile.

When society members go to the online journal, they will be asked to create an account within JSTOR and to select a new username and password. Members received e-mail messages in December to inform them about this: a message from UCP about the upcoming change in online access to the journal, and, later in December, a welcome e-mail from JSTOR and an e-mail with information on creating an account and accessing one's member subscription (unfortunately, members who subscribe to multiple Chicago journals received multiple notices).

Members' current usernames and passwords will remain active on the UCP website ([www.journals.uchicago.edu](http://www.journals.uchicago.edu)) so that they can renew their membership, change their address, check the journal delivery schedule, or claim non-delivery of print issues. Members will be able to change their UCP username and passwords to match their JSTOR usernames and passwords, if they wish to.

In addition to these e-mails, members will see information about access on the new Journal webpage. Members who have bookmarked links to the journal will find those links are automatically redirected to the appropriate page on the new journal webpage within JSTOR.

UCP's customer service staff will work closely with JSTOR's User Services department to ensure that members' access to *Isis* and *Osiris* will continue as seamlessly as possible. Please feel free to contact Chicago Press with any questions. For more information about JSTOR, visit [www.jstor.org](http://www.jstor.org).

### IHPST Newsletter

The latest International History and Philosophy of Science Teaching Group newsletter is available on the web at: <http://ihpst.net/newsletters/>

### Situating Science Spring 2011

Situating Science has a very busy spring ahead as it hits the halfway mark of its seven-year project. Please visit its website for the spring newsletter, an update on lectures across Canada, workshops, Call for Situating Science Workshop Proposals, Live Streams of note, and more.

Further Information: <http://www.situsci.ca>

### Exhibit: THE CHOCOLATE CONNECTION: Hans Sloane & Jamaica

From 6 November 2010 to 31 January 2011, the Lloyd Library and Museum hosted the exhibit THE CHOCOLATE CONNECTION: Hans Sloane & Jamaica, a rare and unique book exhibit from the library's collection. The books were paired with an art exhibit by students of the Art Academy of Cincinnati from its class Illustration I, taught by Mark A. Thomas, Chair of Communication Arts Department, and Professor Troy Brown. Thomas explains, "Students were given the task of producing an illustration that creatively employed chocolate as the central theme while utilizing basic design principles in their compositions. The process involved several levels of exploration beginning with a series of thumbnail sketches, leading to comprehensive visual studies before arriving at a final direction. Students, upon approval of the final direction, made choices of style, medium and even scale before executing their final piece." The result was 24 unique artworks in a variety of media, such as sculptures, paintings, prints, collages, and graphite illustrations. A few artworks are interspersed throughout the book exhibit, including a fanciful sculpture of a cocoa tree sprouting from a chocolate bar and an image of Hans Sloane printed in chocolate syrup.

The book exhibit pulled together three seemingly unconnected topics: 17th-century physician Hans

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Sloane, chocolate, and Jamaica. 2010 marked the 350th anniversary of the birth of Sloane (1660–1753), a British physician and naturalist who popularized drinking chocolate and advocated the use of liquid milk chocolate in Britain as a medicinal beverage. Cadbury, the chocolate manufacturer, briefly used Sloane's recipe in marketing its own version of the liquid chocolate. Sloane learned about drinking chocolate when he traveled to Jamaica in the late 17th century, but chocolate had been known to the native peoples of South and Central America for centuries, long before Sloane's introduction to it, and the Spanish were the first to bring chocolate to Europe as a result of their early encounters with those peoples. Because Sloane and chocolate collided on Jamaica, the museum took this opportunity to showcase some works from Lloyd's collection on these topics and demonstrate how they interact with each other. The book exhibit featured Sloane's 1696 publication on the botany of Jamaica, which includes, of course, an illustration of the cacao tree. The exhibit also contained several exquisite botanical illustrations of cacao by some of history's master artists, as well as historical information on chocolate before Sloane's introduction to it; and, books on the history of chocolate production and manufacturing. The exhibit also included 19th-century photographs by Curtis Gates Lloyd, one of the library's founders, from his trip to Jamaica and the West Indies illustrating chocolate plantations and the lives of imported laborers.

For more information, call 513-721-3707; or, visit Lloyd's website at [www.lloydlibrary.org](http://www.lloydlibrary.org)

### **American Historical Review Redesigns Website**

The *American Historical Review* has redesigned their website (<http://bit.ly/i8iPVr>), the new look paying homage to the journal's signature glossy white cover and accompanying image, which is forty years old this spring. The redesign also offers a more streamlined user experience with added features like a news section. They've also created a Facebook page (<http://on.fb.me/i85wBq>), where they'll post information about the latest issues and other news from the journal.

### **American Historical Association Releases New Report on Job Market**

The American Historical Association (AHA) published a report on the job market for historians in the January 2011 issue of *Perspectives on History*. AHA reports that the number of jobs posted with the association fell 29.4 percent during the academic year 2009–10, from 806 to just 569 openings, the lowest point in 25 years (since the 492 positions posted in 1984–85). This represents a continuation of negative hiring trends reported by AHA last year.

Other findings include:

- The 2009–10 postings mark a decrease from the historical high of 1,059 advertised positions recorded two years ago.
- The economic crisis has led to hiring freezes at many institutions, with noted differences between public and private institutions.
- The outlook for junior faculty opportunities varies by subject field.
- Despite recent cutbacks, most history departments over the past decade are still larger than they were five and ten years ago.
- The number of faculty nearing retirement age in the next ten years is approaching the lowest level in 30 years.
- The average number of applicants to PhD programs in history declined slightly in 2009–10, but remains above the number of students matriculating five and ten years ago.
- As of December 1, 2010, job advertisements through the AHA were up 21.4% compared to the previous year, from 421 to 511 positions.

The report recommends that history departments assess the limitations of the current academic job market and consider their admissions procedures and the type of training offered to students.

The report is available to the general public on the AHA website as of 1 February 2011.

Further Information:

<http://www.nhalliance.org/news/american-historical-association-releases-new-repor.shtml>

## Prehistoric Minds: Human Origins As A Cultural Artefact, 1780–2010

*Organized and edited by Matthew D. Eddy  
Published online: February 2011. Published in print:  
March 2011*

On 8 July 2010 the front page of *The Guardian* newspaper featured an attractive color drawing by the artist John Sibbick. It was titled “Meet the Norfolk Relatives” and it depicted a pastoral scene of farmers and hunters going about their daily routines. The image, however, was not included to illustrate a gargantuan sum recently paid for an impressionist painting. Nor was it a teaser about a long lost work of art. This drawing was slightly different from the kinds that one would normally see on the front of a leading British newspaper. Its subjects were naked. Their bodies were hairy. They were, in fact, an artist’s impression of the early humans who lived on the Norfolk coast a million years ago.

Like so many newspaper stories, this one engendered interviews on the television, further articles and commentaries on blogs which all sought to discuss the recent finds in light of various disciplinary or ideological agendas. Like today, images related to the antiquity of humankind were used to caricature foreigners in the Victorian press and contemporary forms of scientific periodisation were used to interpret the past. Notably, it was these very similarities that led to the five essays in this special issue of *Notes and Records of the Royal Society*.

For article access, go to  
<http://rsnr.royalsocietypublishing.org/site/misc/PrehistoricMinds.xhtml>

## Jacques Loeb Centre Workshop: Origin of Life

The Jacques Loeb Centre for the History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences will hold its Fourth International and Interdisciplinary Workshop from 13–14 June 2011 at Ben-Gurion University in Beer Sheva. The theme of the workshop is “Origin of Life: Scientific, Historical, and Philosophical Perspectives.” There is hardly any topic in biology

which has changed its content so drastically in history as that of the origin of life. This include claims of panspermia—the continuity of life in the universe—as well as assumptions, first put forward by Aristotle, then repeated by the Church Fathers and by scientists until through the 19th century, that some forms of life generate spontaneously from non-living material. Since the question of the origin of life is inseparable from that of a particular conception of life, it affects today not only research into astrobiology and synthetic life, but, at least implicitly, most biological research.

The workshop will focus on the origin of life on earth. It intends to address the question from a number of different scholarly and scientific perspectives, such as biblical studies, classical studies, history and philosophy of science, palaeontology, microbiology, biochemistry, macromolecular chemistry, synthetic biology, and evolutionary biology. We expect this interdisciplinary discussion also to bring forward new insights into the question of what is life.

For more information, please contact Rony Armon ([armonr@bgu.ac.il](mailto:armonr@bgu.ac.il)) or Prof. Ute Deichmann (972-8-6472258).

## 2012 Annual Meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine

The American Association for the History of Medicine invites submissions in any area of medical history for its 85th annual meeting, to be held in Baltimore, Maryland, 26–29 April 2012. The Association welcomes submissions on the history of health and healing; history of medical ideas, practices, and institutions; and histories of illness, disease, and public health. Submissions pertaining to all eras and regions of the world are welcome. In addition to single-paper proposals, the Program Committee accepts abstracts for sessions and for luncheon workshops. Please alert the Program Committee Chair if you are planning a session proposal. Individual papers for these submissions will be judged on their own merits.

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Presentations are limited to 20 minutes. Individuals wishing to present a paper are not required to be members of AAHM before submitting an abstract, but must join AAHM before presenting and register for the meeting. All papers must represent original work not already published or in press. Because the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* is the official journal of the AAHM, the Association encourages speakers to make their manuscripts available for consideration for publication by the *Bulletin*.

The AAHM uses an online abstract submissions system. We encourage all applicants to use this convenient software. A link for submissions will be posted to the website at <http://histmed.org/>

If you are unable to submit proposals online, send eight copies of a one-page abstract (350 words maximum) with learning objectives to:

Program Committee Chair, Jole Shackelford,  
Program for the History of Medicine, University  
of Minnesota Medical School, MMC 506  
420 Delaware St. SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55455  
(612-624-4416)

When proposing a historical argument, state the major claim, summarize the evidence supporting the claim, and state the major conclusion(s). When proposing a narrative, summarize the story, identify the major agents, and specify the conflict. New this year is the additional requirement that abstracts include three learning objectives to facilitate approval for CME credit (not included in the 350 word abstract limit). Please provide the following information on the same sheet as the abstract: name, preferred mailing address, work and home telephone numbers, e-mail address, present institutional affiliation, and academic degrees. Abstracts must be received by 15 September 2011.

We cannot accept e-mailed or faxed proposals.

### CFP—NEW JOURNAL: *Journal of Interdisciplinary History of Ideas*

This open-access, academic, peer-refereed journal, devoted to interdisciplinary history of ideas, focuses on the bonds that connect more general historical

study in the field—and special fields such as the history of science—that are usually severed in research works, though connected in the real course of intellectual history.

The *Journal of Interdisciplinary History of Ideas* was founded in 2010 with the aim to:

- a) publish high quality, original, research works by scholars of different fields of specialization, based on well-established, as well as on emerging lines of, interdisciplinary historical research;
- b) promote the study of intellectual history as an intrinsically interdisciplinary object in its genesis;
- c) provide a publishing space for studies dealing with the history of ideas from a genuinely interdisciplinary research perspective;
- d) provide a regular forum for discussing issues pertaining to the interdisciplinary approach that characterizes the *Journal*.

As an Open Access Journal, the *JiHi* appears online free of charge. Contributions to the *JiHi* will be published under the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License (BY-NC-SA). The *JiHi* will feature substantive articles, shorter research notes, and surveys. Being an interdisciplinary journal, all submissions will be blind-refereed by three or more peers with different competences.

The *Journal* will accept submissions in English and French. Prepare your article in a suitable format (odt, doc, rtf). Format citations according to either the Chicago Author-Date System, or the Chicago Documentary Note Style, or the APA Citation Style.

1. Go to the JIHI website (<http://www.jihi.eu>).
2. Use the REGISTER function to register as “Author: Able to submit items to the journal”.
3. You should be logged in. Go to USER HOME.
4. Select New Submission.
5. Follow instructions.

The *Journal* is hosted by the University of Turin (<http://www.ojs.unito.it>). The *Journal* is also documented in print and as such is registered according to the Italian law (Trib. Torino, reg. n. 9, 24-01-11; dir. resp. S. Mammola).

Further Information: <http://www.jihi.eu>

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### My Current Work and Its Possible Implications: A Joint INES/Prometheans Workshop

The International Network for Engineering Studies (INES) and the Prometheans special interest group in the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) seek 6 minute, 40 second presentations and eager discussion participants for a joint one-day workshop on engineering studies and the history of engineering.

The workshop will take place on Wednesday, 2 November 2011 at Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio. It is hosted by Peter Meiksins, Professor of Sociology at Cleveland State. November 2 is the day before the co-located HSS/SHOT/4S meetings begin.

Thanks to sponsorship by Taylor & Francis/Routledge, publishers of *Engineering Studies: Journal of the International Network for Engineering Studies*, the meeting is free to members of INES and the Prometheans who pre-register. It may include support for breakfast and lunch (more on logistics later).

The workshop's purpose is to bring researchers in engineering studies and history of engineering together in concise, fast-moving, wide-ranging, and hopefully entertaining discussions of the contents of current research and its possible implications for different audiences inside and outside scholarly arenas.

The workshop's more general goals include deepening scholarly connections among researchers; attracting more researchers to engineering studies and history of engineering; heightening the visibility of this research across the memberships of HSS, SHOT, and 4S; and increasing the extent to which this research makes a difference beyond scholarly arenas.

The workshop will use a PechaKucha approach to presentation and discussion ([www.pecha-kucha.org](http://www.pecha-kucha.org)). Speakers are free to draw on up to 20 slides for 20 seconds each. They must stop after their 6 minute 40 second slot expires (even if in mid-sentence).

With up to 4 presentations in 45-minute slots every hour, separated by 15-minute breaks and lunch, as many as 24 scholars will present between 9 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. The organizers welcome suggestions for a final plenary discussion, ending around 5 p.m.

To present at the workshop, send a confirming message to the INES Secretary/Treasurer Crystal Harrell ([crcrigge@vt.edu](mailto:crcrigge@vt.edu)) by 15 May 2011. Include in the body of the message your name, institutional affiliation, title, and 50-100 word abstract of your proposed presentation. Offering to present constitutes registration. The program committee will notify you by June 15 regarding your inclusion in the program.

To pre-register, send a message by 15 September 2011 to the same address ([crcrigge@vt.edu](mailto:crcrigge@vt.edu)). Include your name, institutional affiliation, and membership status in INES and/or the Prometheans.

### INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY, School of Historical Studies, Opportunities for Scholars 2012-2013

The Institute is an independent private institution founded in 1930 to create a community of scholars focused on intellectual inquiry, free from teaching and other university obligations. Scholars from around the world come to the Institute to pursue their own research. Candidates of any nationality may apply for a single term or a full academic year. Scholars may apply for a stipend, but those with sabbatical funding, other grants, retirement funding or other means are also invited to apply for a non-stipendiary membership. Some short-term visitorships (for less than a full term, and without stipend) are also available on an *ad hoc* basis. Open to all fields of historical research, the School's principal interests are the history of western, near eastern and Asian civilizations, with particular emphasis upon Greek and Roman civilization, the history of Europe (medieval, early modern, and modern), the Islamic world, East Asian studies, the history of art, the history of science, philosophy, modern international relations, and music studies. Residence in Princeton during term time is required. The only other obligation of Members is to pursue

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their own research. The PhD (or equivalent) and substantial publications are required. Information and application forms may be found on the School's web site, <http://www.hs.ias.edu> or contact:

School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study

Einstein Dr.

Princeton, NJ 08540

(E-mail address: [mzelazny@ias.edu](mailto:mzelazny@ias.edu))

Deadline: 1 November 2011.

Further Information:

<http://www.hs.ias.edu/hsannoun.htm>

### Oregon State University Special Collections Acquires Margaret J. Osler Papers

The Oregon State University Libraries Special Collections houses a number of archival and book collections, most of which focus on the history of twentieth-century science and technology

(<http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/specialcollections/index.html>).

Special Collections has as its primary mission to preserve and provide access to the Ava Helen and Linus Pauling Papers, however, it has a number of other collections of interest to historians of science. A new collection is a repository for the papers of historians of science

(<http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/specialcollections/coll/historians/index.html>).

The most recent acquisition in the Historians of Science Collection is the collected papers and correspondence of Margaret J. Osler, longtime Secretary of the History of Science Society.

Research grants of up to \$7,500 are available to scholars interested in conducting work in the Oregon State University Libraries Special Collections.

Further Information:

<http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/specialcollections/residentscholar.pdf>

### NEH Announces “Digging Into Data Challenge”

On 16 March 2011, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) joined seven international research funders in announcing their joint participation in round two of the Digging into Data Challenge, a grant competition designed to spur cutting-edge research in the humanities and social sciences.

The first round of the Digging into Data Challenge sparked enormous interest from the international research community and led to eight cutting-edge projects being funded.

Due to the overwhelming popularity of round one, the Digging into Data Challenge announced that four additional funders have joined for round two, enabling this competition to have a worldwide reach into many different scholarly and scientific domains. The eight sponsoring funding bodies include the Arts & Humanities Research Council (United Kingdom), the Economic & Social Research Council (United Kingdom), the Institute of Museum and Library Services (United States), the Joint Information Systems Committee (United Kingdom), the National Endowment for the Humanities (United States), the National Science Foundation (United States), the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (Netherlands), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada).

Final applications will be due 16 June 2011. Further information about the competition and the application process can be found at <http://www.diggingintodata.org>

Original Post:

<http://historycoalition.org/2011/03/16/neh-announces-digging-into-data-challenge/>

## IN MEMORIAM

### David B. Kitts (1923–2010)

**David B. Kitts**, long a member of the History of Science program at the University of Oklahoma, died at Norman, OK on 30 October 2010 at the age of 87. Trained in zoology — he earned his PhD at Columbia University (1953), supervised by George Gaylord Simpson — Kitts began his career as a geologist and paleontologist. As early as his college years at Penn, he cultivated an interest in the logical and conceptual structure of science, which led him to important and influential analyses of the foundations of geological and biological thinking. While doing research in vertebrate paleontology at OU, he explored these interests further by teaching a new course, Metageology, and began a long-term affiliation with the History of Science program.

A collection of his main papers on the underpinnings of geological thought, *The Structure of Geology* (published in 1977), was a pioneering work in turning attention in twentieth-century philosophy of science to the logical and historical processes in geological reasoning. His research in the philosophy of biology centered first on the concept of biological species, then on the logical structure of Darwin's argument in *The Origin of Species*, a subject he continued to investigate for many years after his retirement in 1988. In this work, as in the philosophy of geology, he closely analyzed historical and contemporary scientific and philosophical texts in order to inform philosophical claims with historical accuracy. In 1966 Kitts was named David Ross Boyd Professor, an appointment recognizing the institution's finest teachers. He divided his instructional time at OU between Geology and History of Science until assuming a full-time appointment in 1978 in the History of Science Department, in which he served as department chair from 1973 to 1979. Over a hundred family members, colleagues and friends gathered in Norman

on 5 February 2011 for a memorial tribute to David B. Kitts and a reception hosted by his wife Nancy and his sons Peter and David. Following Ken Taylor's opening remarks on David's life and work, punctuated with stories of his personal qualities and legendary foibles, there followed a dozen short recollections of David's teaching, writing, field work, cycling, camping, sculling, and vacation travels. Among these were stories from his history-of-science colleagues and former students Marilyn Ogilvie, Steve Livesey, Liba Taub, Bob Nye, and Mary Jo Nye. The snow drifts beneath the brilliant blue sky of an Oklahoma winter day provided a beautiful setting for celebrating David's life.

*Mary Jo Nye, Oregon State University*

*Ken Taylor, University of Oklahoma*

### Alexander M. Ospovat (1923–2010)

Alexander Meier Ospovat died 21 December 2010, at Stillwater, Oklahoma. He was a member of the History Department at Oklahoma State University from 1962 until his retirement in 1988.

Born in 1923 in Königsberg, East Prussia, Ospovat spent most of his childhood in Memel, Lithuania. In 1940 his family fled, first to Mexico, then to the US. Ospovat earned a degree in civil engineering at the University of Oklahoma in 1945. Following several years of employment as an engineer, he returned to school and earned his PhD in 1960. He was the first to complete the OU doctoral program in history of science.

At Oklahoma State Ospovat taught history of science and medicine, and early modern European history. His research focused primarily on the development of geology in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. He is particularly well known for his research on the geological career and thought of Abraham Gottlob Werner (1749–1817). His was a pioneering voice in revising the negative judgments on Werner that had been taken in most British and

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American histories of geology since the time of Charles Lyell. In recognition of his contributions to the history of geology Ospovat received an honorary doctorate from the Bergakademie Freiberg (1990).

*Ken Taylor, University of Oklahoma*

### Harry M. Marks (1947–2011)

Professor **Harry M. Marks**, PhD, 64, died at his home in Baltimore on 25 January 2011. Professor Marks was the Elizabeth Treide & A. McGehee Harvey Professor in the History of Medicine in the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He also held joint appointments in The Krieger School's department of History and Anthropology and in the School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology. A get-together of friends and colleagues took place at the Institute of the History of Medicine on Feb. 5 from noon to 2 p.m.

### Rev. Ernan McMullin (1924–2011)



**Ernan McMullin**, John Cardinal O'Hara Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame, died 8 February 2011 at Letterkenny General Hospital in Donegal, Ireland. He was 86 years old. A native of Ballybofey, Donegal, Father McMullin was an internationally prominent scholar in the philosophy of science. He studied physics at the National University of Ireland under the Nobel laureate Erwin Schrödinger and theology at Maynooth College before being ordained a priest in 1949 and receiving his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Louvain in 1954. He joined the

Notre Dame faculty the same year, and for the next half century proceeded to explain that decision by praising the then-new president who had recruited him. "Father Ted Hesburgh could charm a bird out of a tree," he would say. At Notre Dame, Father McMullin chaired the philosophy department from 1965 to 1972 and served as director of the history and philosophy of science program and of the Reilly Center for Science, Technology and Human Values before retiring in 1994, continuing to teach on the graduate level until 2003. For the last seven years, he lived in both St. Paul, Minn. and Donegal. "Ernan McMullin was a good priest, a good philosopher and a good friend to generations of Notre Dame students and teachers," said David Solomon, director of Notre Dame's Center for Ethics and Culture. "One of the giants of Notre Dame, his thought and personality transformed and dominated the philosophy department for almost half a century."

Father McMullin wrote and lectured widely on subjects ranging from the relationship between cosmology and theology to the role of values in understanding science to the impact of Darwinism on Western religious thought. He was also an unrivalled expert on the life of Galileo. The author of some 200 articles in scholarly and popular journals, Father McMullin also published 14 books including *The Concept of Matter*; *Galileo: Man of Science*; *Newton on Matter and Activity*; *The Inference That Makes Science*; and *The Church and Galileo*. During his career, Father McMullin held visiting appointments at the University of Minnesota, the University of Cape Town, the University of California at Los Angeles, and Princeton and Yale Universities. He also served on numerous scholarly committees and congresses worldwide and is the only person ever to have been elected president of all the following professional organizations: the American Philosophical Association, the Philosophy of Science Association, the Metaphysical Society of America and the American Catholic Philosophical Association. His numerous awards include honorary degrees from Maynooth, the National University of Ireland, Loyola University in Chicago, Stonehill College, and Notre Dame.

*Michael O. Garvey, public information and communications, University of Notre Dame*

### Magda Whitrow (1914–2011)



**Magda Whitrow**, the editor of the first *Isis Cumulative Bibliography*, which was published in six volumes from 1971 to 1984, passed away in early February of this year. Her bibliography indexed over 100,000 citations in over ninety annual and semi-annual bibliographies.

Whitrow recognized the significant role played by the *Isis* bibliography in the discipline. Her creation of the cumulative bibliography grew out of a conversation between Whitrow, then a librarian at Imperial College, London, and the editor of *Isis* at that time, Harry Woolf. Instead of simply indexing the articles in *Isis* as some people wished, the Society embarked on this cumulation project with grants from the National Science Foundation and the United States Steel Foundation.

Whitrow carefully studied George Sarton's classification systems and then developed a much more detailed, faceted structure from it as a basis for indexing. The resulting product was original and proved to be extraordinarily useful. Her classification scheme became the basis of indexing for all subsequent cumulative bibliographies, edited by John Neu, and formed the core of Neu's indexing scheme for the HSTM database. The Whitrow system turned out to be easily adaptable to the rapidly developing digital database format.

By forging this new and much more complex scheme, Whitrow laid the groundwork for bibliographical

work in our field that continues to underlie both print and electronic bibliographies today.

Further Information:

<http://www.libsci.sc.edu/bob/isp/whitrow2.htm>

### Archbishop Józef Mirosław Życiński (1948–2011)

Archbishop **Józef Mirosław Życiński** passed suddenly away on 10 February 2011. Archbishop Życiński was born on 1 September 1948 in Stara Wieś (Poland). He was ordained to the priesthood in 1972, completed PhD's in theology in 1976 at the Pontifical Academy of Theology (Kraków) and in Philosophy in 1978 at the Academy of Catholic Theology (Warsaw); and in 1980 became professor of philosophy at the Pontifical Academy of Theology (subsequently also Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy). In 1990 he became Bishop of Tarnów, and in 1997 Archbishop of Lublin. He also became professor of philosophy and later Grand Chancellor at the Catholic University of Lublin. In collaboration with Pope John Paul II he organized the "Science-Faith" Interdisciplinary Dialogue in Kraków. He published almost 50 books in philosophy of science, relativistic cosmology, and the history of relations between natural sciences and Christian faith, as well as about 350 scientific papers. He was a founder of the journal *Philosophy in Science*, and of the *Philosophy in Science* Library series.

*By Fr. Tomasz Trafny*

## MEMBER NEWS

Several HSS members are involved in a special issue on transatlantic science policy that was published by *Centaurus*, (edited by Ida Stamhuis) volume 52, issue 4, November 2010 (official journal of the European Society for History of Science) on the basis of a HSS session, within a calendar year, possibly a world record! Authors include John Krige, Naomi Oreskes, Ronald Doel, Peter Westwick, and Pnina G. Abir-Am, who also wrote the Introduction. The issue is available at <http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/cnt>. Access code **cnt30trial**.

**Monica H. Green** (Arizona State University) has been elected a Fellow of the Medieval Academy of America (MAA), the leading professional organization of medievalists in North America.

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**Ellen Herman** has received an ACLS Fellowship for 2011–2012 for a new project, “Autism, Between Rights and Risks.”

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**Kenneth M. Ludmerer** has been installed as the inaugural Mabel Dorn Reeder Distinguished Professor of the History of Medicine at Washington University. He continues as Professor of History in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and as Professor of Medicine in the School of Medicine.

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**Nancy Nersessian** (Georgia Tech) has won the American Philosophical Society’s inaugural Patrick Suppes Award in Philosophy of Science. Her new book, *Science as Psychology: Sense Making and Identity in Science Practice* (co-authors Kareen Malone and Wendy Newstetter) is now available from Cambridge University Press.

**Kimberly O’Brien** has graduated from the American Military University with an MA in Global History.

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**Neeraja Sankaran** is now Assistant Professor of the History of Science, Technology & Medicine at the Underwood International College of Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea. Previously she was a visiting Assistant Professor at the American University in Cairo.

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**Conevery Bolton Valencius** will join the History Faculty at University of Massachusetts, Boston this Fall.

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### Distinguished Lecture at NSF

On 15 March 2011, **Peter Galison** (Harvard University) participated in the National Science Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series in Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences. He summarizes his address, “*A Material History of Science*,” thus:

What would it mean to approach the history of physics by taking material objects such as instruments as seriously as the study of finished theories? I would like to follow that path to explore what that approach involves and what it has to offer for history, philosophy, pedagogy, and policy. This track involves studying physics not as a homogeneous discipline but as a discipline composed of coordinated but distinct subcultures. An example from the turn of the 20th century, relativity theory, will consider links between time coordinating technologies (clocks), theoretical physics, and philosophy of science. Another hybrid-field instance from the turn of the 21st-century, string theory, will also be considered. I will present

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the idea of a “trading zone” between partially overlapping subcultures of modern science. I will end with a discussion of how the idea of trading zones might help us as we face increasingly vexed intersections of scientific and non-scientific cultures, such as our present conundrums about the disposal of nuclear waste. In order to address these concerns, not just to talk about them, I have been increasingly involved with projects to use historical reasoning about material science to open these discussions beyond purely scholarly audiences, which has meant working simultaneously in film as well as print.



Former HSS President, Michael Sokal (left) and Clark Elliott conferring on the occasion of the January tribute in Clark's honor.

### Tribute to Clark A. Elliott

On 22 January 2011, relatives, friends, and colleagues of **Clark A. Elliott** — long-time Archivist at Harvard University and Librarian of the Burndy Library during many of its years at MIT — gathered in Waltham, Massachusetts, to honor him on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Some HSS members may know Clark best as the co-editor of *Osiris* 14, *Commemorative Practices in Science: Historical Perspectives on the Politics of Collective Memory* (1999). But many others also recognize him as one of the founders of the Forum for the History of Science in America, and as the long-time editor (and bibliographer) of its Newsletter, *News & Views*. In toasting Clark at the gathering, several archivists and historians of science enjoyed highlighting many of his other accomplishments. These include, for example, the 1983 report on the “Documentation of

the History of Post-War Science and Technology in the United States,” otherwise known as the JCAST Report, which he edited. NSF had earlier funded the Joint Committee on Archives of Science and Technology to promote preservation of and access to these archives, and that such repositories and collections have grown exponentially since then is due in large part to Clark's report.

Clark's other book-length publications include his 1979 *Biographical Dictionary of American Science, The 17th through the 19th Centuries*, his 1990 *Biographical Index to American Science: The 17th Century to 1920*, and his 1996 chronology and research guide to the *History of Science in the United States*. And in the 21st century Clark enabled on-line access to all of these resources, and others, through his website, “History of Science in the United States: Research Aids for the 19th Century.”

As befitting someone who has served the Harvard history of science community so well for so many years, Clark has also written extensively on the history of science at the university. After a series of influential articles, he co-edited *Science at Harvard University: Historical Perspectives* and published his biography of long-time Harvard librarian and man of science, *Thaddeus William Harris (1795–1856): Nature, Science, and Society in the Life of an American Naturalist*.

To pay further tribute to Clark, many of the historians of science present made donations to the HSS Bibliographer's Fund in his honor. They now urge others who benefited from Clark's life-long efforts — as an archivist, an organizer, a bibliographer, and a scholar — to join them by making their own contributions. In all, Clark's achievement embodies a career well worth honoring, and emulating, and recognizing in this manner. (Contributions to the Fund may be made by going to <https://www.hssweb.org/donate/>)

### Sy Mauskopf Celebration

By Alan Rocke



From Left to Right: Alan Rocke, Jo Mauskopf, Sy Mauskopf, and Tom Robisheaux

On 11 December 2010, Duke University organized a celebration marking the retirement of Professor **Seymour Mauskopf**, after 46 years of distinguished teaching in the Department of History. After a buffet reception, appreciations were given by Dean of Arts & Sciences Angela O’Rand, Department Chair William Reddy, and Associate Chair Tom Robisheaux, followed by a tribute from Alan Rocke, of Case Western Reserve University. Among the enthusiastic crowd of about 100 attendees were friends, present and former students, colleagues and former colleagues from Duke and other institutions, children and grandchildren. Two days earlier, Sy had presented a Duke University Vaedictory Lecture entitled “A Bridge between Cultures: Reflections on a Long Career in History of Science at Duke.” Sy’s career has been as distinguished as it has been long. His work has transformed our understanding of several different areas of the history of science, including 18th and early 19th century chemistry, the history of parapsychology and marginal sciences, and the history of chemical technology, especially munitions. It was a pleasure for all of us to celebrate with Sy the end of his formal teaching duties, and the inception of emeritus status—the start of what is sure to prove an important new phase in the career of an outstanding historian, a beloved teacher, and a great friend.

### History of Science at the AAAS



Lawrence Principe delivers the 49th George Sarton Memorial Lecture in the History and Philosophy of Science at the AAAS

**Larry Principe**, the Drew Professor of the Humanities, Johns Hopkins University, spoke on “Revealing the Secrets of Alchemy,” at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science on 19 February 2011. In his introduction of Principe, AAAS Section L Chair, Rick Creath, mentioned the irony that Sarton himself ridiculed alchemy as a field of study, a reflection of the “pseudo scientific” opinion of alchemy in the early 20th century. Principe picked up on this theme and said that Sarton’s sentiment was echoed by Herbert Butterfield who proclaimed that those who study alchemy historically are “tinctured by lunacy.” Undeterred by his elders and the shadow of lunacy, Professor Principe proceeded to describe how alchemy fits into the history of chemistry.

Chemistry (that is, alchemy), for centuries, did not have a home in the university, and its practice was seen as dirty and smelly. Critics sniffed at its reputation for being unscrupulous. The split between alchemy and chemistry began around 1700, even though no new logical or experimental refutations of transmutation appeared. Instead, “bad” chemistry (transmutation) was sequestered as “alchemy” and its practitioners cast as socially and morally unacceptable. This perception persisted until recently in part because alchemical writings were intentionally vague, filled with metaphor and allegory, making it difficult to understand what alchemists were really doing. In his picture-rich presentation, Principe described part of his endeavor to understand

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alchemy historically. He compared allegorical public texts of alchemy with the more straightforward private jottings of alchemical practitioners to reveal their ways of writing, thinking, and working. Principe also showed how by decoding texts and, as a chemist, replicating the processes described, he obtained surprising and visually striking results that demonstrate the technical and experimental skills of the alchemists and explain, in part, their continuing devotion to their quest to transmute metals.

The Sarton Lecturer is chosen each year by the Executive Committee of the History of Science Society. Begun in 1960, the lecture is supported by Section L (history and philosophy of science) of AAAS and receives special status at the annual meetings. The lecture provides the opportunity for a historian of science to speak to an audience largely comprised of scientists.

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In addition to the Sarton lecture, there were several sessions at the AAAS that would be of interest to HSS members. Reports on two of these sessions—“The Challenge of Teaching Evolution in the Islamic World” and “Celebrating the Centennial of Mme Curie’s Nobel Prize in Chemistry”—written by Taner Edis and Pnina Abir-Am respectively, appear on pages 24 and 30.

### 2010 National Humanities Medals Awarded

On March 2, U. S. President Barack Obama presented the 2010 National Humanities Medals to ten individuals honored for their outstanding achievements in history, literature, education, and cultural policy. The medals were presented at a White House ceremony. Earlier in the day, several of the medalists participated in a roundtable discussion, held at the National Endowment for the Humanities headquarters, on the role of the humanities in contemporary culture.

The National Humanities Medal honors individuals or groups whose work has deepened the nation’s understanding of the humanities, broadened citizens’ engagement with the humanities, or helped

preserve and expand Americans’ access to important resources in the humanities.

Among the honorees were the following :

- **Bernard Bailyn** for illuminating the nation’s early history and pioneering the field of Atlantic history. Bailyn, who spent his career at Harvard, has won two Pulitzer Prizes, the first for *The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution*, and the second for *Voyagers to the West*.
- **Jacques Barzun** for his distinguished career as a scholar, educator, and public intellectual. One of the founders of the field of cultural history, Barzun taught at Columbia University for five decades and has written and edited more than thirty books.
- **Wendell E. Berry** for his achievements as a poet, novelist, farmer, and conservationist. The author of more than forty books, Berry has spent his career exploring our relationship with the land and the community.
- **Stanley Nider Katz** for a career devoted to fostering public support for the humanities. As director of the American Council of Learned Societies for more than a decade, he expanded the organization’s programs and helped forge ties among libraries, museums, and foundations.

### The Challenge of Teaching Evolution in the Islamic World, moderated by Eugenie C. Scott, National Center for Science Education

- *A Brief History of Islamic Creationism in Turkey*  
**Taner Edis**, Truman State University
- *Teaching and Learning About Biological Evolution in the Muslim World*  
**Jason R. Wiles**, Syracuse University
- *The Future of Acceptance of Evolution in the Muslim World*  
**Salman Hameed**, Hampshire College

The talk on Islamic Creationism in Turkey traced the history of Islamic opposition to Darwinian evolution, with special focus on Turkey, the country

that is the source of much Islamic creationism today. Opposition to Darwinian ideas existed in the 19th century Ottoman Empire, but it was limited, since evolution appealed only to a tiny number of Westernizing intellectuals. In the early 20th century Turkish Republic, evolution entered public education, but was only a minor irritant to religious conservatives when compared to other secularist policies. Since the 1980s, however, an increasingly vigorous creationism has appeared in Turkey. It has enjoyed official success, penetrating into public education. With the “Harun Yahya” operation, popular creationism has also found an influential media presence. Anti-evolutionary ideas also have a strong influence in the Islamic intellectual high culture today.

Jason Wiles pointed out that little is known in the West about how evolution is taught in Islamic societies. His findings were derived from data collected in several Muslim nations via questionnaires and interviews administered to students, teachers and university scientists, as well as from reviews of official curricular documents during a four-year study of Islamic understandings of, and attitudes toward, evolution and the teaching thereof. His work seeks to inform scientists and educators in the West about how Muslims might perceive evolution, thus facilitating a greater understanding of the diversity of Islamic thought on evolution, evolution education, and science in general.

Salman Hameed observed that evolution is still a new concept for the majority of Muslims and a serious debate over its religious compatibility has not yet taken place. At the same time, a complex interaction involving evolution, culture and religion is already underway. Evolution is included in the high school curricula of many Muslim countries, although human evolution is often excluded. Creationist movements have gained a foothold in some Muslim countries. Hameed and collaborators have been conducting an interview-survey of Muslim physicians and medical students and in a few Muslim countries, as well as in Muslim Diasporas in the West, including the US. Preliminary results indicate a complex set of ways by which educated Muslims are negotiating the interaction between modern science and religion.

## Cliff Mead Retires from OSU

**Cliff Mead**, Head of Special Collections for OSU Libraries, has retired effective 1 January 2011 after 24 years of service at OSU Libraries. Mead’s expertise in special collections administration has resulted in the development and growth of a world-class collection that serves as an outstanding resource not only for the OSU community but also for scholars from across the globe. OSU’s Horning Professor of Humanities and Professor of History Emeritus, Mary Jo Nye stated, “Special Collections provides an ideal on-campus physical environment for study and research, but, even more significantly, Cliff and his staff have pioneered online website communication of historically valuable documents, photographs, films, and other resources to the public. He has been a real treasure at OSU whom countless visitors have found to be their engaging and omniscient guide in Special Collections.”

Professor Mead has led the Special Collections Department’s development of outstanding digital resources, especially those that provide in-depth coverage of the life and work of Linus Pauling, the only recipient of two unshared Nobel Prizes. “In addition to Professor Mead’s leadership in developing a truly innovative and world-renowned web presence for displaying the vast resources of the Special Collections department, he has provided exceptional opportunities for OSU students to have firsthand experience working with primary research materials,” noted Karyle Butcher, former OSU University Librarian/Press Director.

Professor Mead is recognized internationally as the authority on the Ava Helen and Linus Pauling Papers. He has authored several publications, including *Thomas Pynchon: A Bibliography of Primary and Secondary Sources* (1989). His most recent book, co-edited with Chris Petersen, is *The Pauling Catalogue: Ava Helen and Linus Pauling Papers at Oregon State University* (2006). He also has co-edited *Linus Pauling: Scientist and Peacemaker* (2001) and *The Pauling Symposium: A Discourse on the Art of Biography* (1996). Professor Mead received his Masters of Library Science from Syracuse University

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School of Information Studies, Syracuse, New York and a BA in English from the Utica College of Syracuse University.

Paul Farber, OSU Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Editor, *Journal of the History of Biology*, summed up Professor Mead's accomplishments: "Cliff has that rare combination of intelligence, organization, personality, wit and humor that makes a university collection of papers and books into a Special Collection. He has been at the center of creating this major asset at OSU, one that has large portions available online, and one that brings scholars from around the world to campus. He cannot be replaced, but he has built an institution that will persist."



### HSS 2011

**Join us in Cleveland,  
Ohio, USA for the 2011  
HSS Annual Meeting,  
a co-located meeting  
with SHOT and 4S.**

### NEW FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM: THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES' PUBLIC FELLOWS

The American Council of Learned Societies invites applications for the inaugural competition of its Public Fellows program. The program will place eight recent PhDs in staff positions at partnering agencies in government and the non-profit sector for two years, beginning in some cases as early as September 2011. Fellows will participate in the substantive work of these agencies and receive professional mentoring. Compensation will be commensurate with experience and at the same level as new professional employees of the hosting agency and will include health insurance.

This program, made possible by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, aims to demonstrate that the capacities developed in the advanced study of the humanities have wide application, both within and beyond the academy.

ACLS seeks applications from recent PhDs who wish to begin careers in administration, management, and public service by choice rather than circumstance. Competitive applicants will have been successful in both academic and extra-academic experiences.

#### APPLICANTS MUST:

- possess U.S. citizenship or permanent resident status
- have a PhD in the humanities or humanistic social sciences conferred between January 2008 and March 2011
- not have applied to any other ACLS Fellowship programs in the 2010-2011 competition year, including the New Faculty Fellows program

Prospective applicants should read through all the positions listed below and be ready to choose one when beginning the online application process. Applicants may apply to only one position. The deadline for submitted applications is **Monday, May 16, 3 p.m. EDT**, and complete applications will include:

- (1) completed application form;
- (2) cover letter tailored to a specific position;
- (3) resume;
- (4) candidate statement; and
- (5) one nomination letter.

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The only way to apply for these positions is through the ACLS Public Fellows program. Only complete applications, submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application system (<http://ofa.acls.org>) by the deadline will be considered.

Submitted applications will undergo ACLS' standard rigorous peer review process, which may include interviews by ACLS and by the hosting agency. Reviewers will look for:

- (a) applicant's academic accomplishment and success;
- (b) demonstrated relationship between past experience and specified position; and
- (c) commitment to the public and/or non-profit sector. Applicants who advance to the interview stages will need to be available in the timeframe listed below.

Interviews:	mid to late June
Email Notification of application status:	early July

*These dates are subject to revision. Please check back.*

### PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND POSITIONS

Click on the positions to view the PDF of the full description, which includes detailed information on the hosting agency, the position, and requisite qualifications. Please do not contact any of these agencies with questions (i.e., on the position, benefits, etc.).

1. Association of American Universities (AAU)  
— Policy Analyst  
[http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships\\_and\\_Grants/Competitions/1112\\_PublicFellows-AAU.pdf](http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships_and_Grants/Competitions/1112_PublicFellows-AAU.pdf)
2. Council on Foundations  
— Leadership Development Officer  
[http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships\\_and\\_Grants/Competitions/1112\\_PublicFellows-Council-on-Foundations.pdf](http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships_and_Grants/Competitions/1112_PublicFellows-Council-on-Foundations.pdf)
3. Institute for International Education (IIE)  
— Program Officer, Scholar Rescue Fund  
[http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships\\_and\\_Grants/Competitions/1112\\_PublicFellows-IIE.pdf](http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships_and_Grants/Competitions/1112_PublicFellows-IIE.pdf)
4. National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education (NITLE)  
— Program Officer  
[http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships\\_and\\_Grants/Competitions/1112\\_PublicFellows-NITLE.pdf](http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships_and_Grants/Competitions/1112_PublicFellows-NITLE.pdf)
5. New York City Department of Cultural Affairs  
— Cultural Programs Specialist  
[http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships\\_and\\_Grants/Competitions/1112\\_PublicFellows-NYC-DCLA-Cultural-Programs.pdf](http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships_and_Grants/Competitions/1112_PublicFellows-NYC-DCLA-Cultural-Programs.pdf)  
— Cultural Communications Specialist  
[http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships\\_and\\_Grants/Competitions/1112\\_PublicFellows-NYC-DCLA-Cultural-Communications.pdf](http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships_and_Grants/Competitions/1112_PublicFellows-NYC-DCLA-Cultural-Communications.pdf)
6. U.S. Department of State  
— two positions, various departments  
[http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships\\_and\\_Grants/Competitions/1112\\_PublicFellows-US-Department-of-State.pdf](http://www.acls.org/uploadedFiles/Fellowships_and_Grants/Competitions/1112_PublicFellows-US-Department-of-State.pdf)

ACLS will field only questions about the fellowship program itself and not on the positions or the organizations. Please carefully review the program description, the positions, and the sample application before contacting ACLS. Questions about the fellowship program can be directed in writing to [fellowships@acls.org](mailto:fellowships@acls.org) (no calls please).

### Yanked from the Margins

by Dan Berrett

A new blue-ribbon commission has been assembled in a bid to put the humanities and social sciences on an equal footing on the public agenda with science, technology, engineering and mathematics. “We feel strongly that it’s time to bring all these disciplines into constructive interplay,” Leslie C. Berlowitz, president of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, said during a conference call with reporters Thursday morning to announce the formation of the group, which has been dubbed the Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences. “The humanities and social sciences have not been as much on the national agenda. Part of this effort is to show how integrated the two are,” she said, referring to those fields’ connection to the sciences. “You can’t teach math and science to people who can’t read.”

The commission’s 41 members represent a broad range of disciplines and backgrounds, including artists (Emmylou Harris and Chuck Close), college presidents (Drew Gilpin Faust of Harvard University and Donna E. Shalala of the University of Miami), academics (Kwame Anthony Appiah, professor of philosophy at Princeton University, and Gerald Early, professor of modern letters at Washington University in St. Louis), former governors (John Engler of Michigan and Phil Bredesen Jr. of Tennessee), and private sector heavyweights (James McNerney, chairman, president and CEO of Boeing, and John E. Warnock, chairman of Adobe Systems).

The group’s work will cost about \$1 million and has been funded, in part, with start-up money from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The panel is meant to parallel a similar effort focused on the sciences, which is being undertaken by the National Academies. The results of that report will be a set of recommendations for how various sectors can support research universities in achieving national goals in health, energy, the environment, and security. The Commission on the Humanities and Social

Sciences will meet over the next year to 18 months and eventually recommend what its organizers call concrete and actionable plans for those in government, education and philanthropy to strengthen teaching and research in the humanities and social sciences.

While similar efforts have been attempted before, such as the Association of American Universities’ 2004 report, “Reinvigorating the Humanities,” the work of this commission will differ, says the academy, because its focus will go beyond the AAU’s emphasis on research universities (though that report did recommend that colleges form partnerships with K-12 schools and cultural organizations) and on the humanities alone. The commission has been given the job of identifying the top 10 actions to support both sets of disciplines that can be taken by universities, K-12 educational institutions, governments, foundations and donors.

The commission came into being as the result of a request from Senators Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) and Mark Warner (D-Va.), as well as Representatives Tom Petri (R-Wisc.) and David Price (D-N.C.). The goal of the commission, the public officials wrote, is “to maintain national excellence in humanities and social scientific scholarship and education, and to achieve long-term national goals for our intellectual and economic well-being; for a stronger, more vibrant civil society; and for the success of cultural diplomacy in the 21st century.”

The civic and democratic function of the humanities and social sciences is especially important in American life, said Richard H. Brodhead, president of Duke University, and co-chair of the commission. He described how the Declaration of Independence drew upon humanist thought. “In the most literal sense, the country was founded on ideas,” he said during Thursday’s call. And although the humanities focus on the past, he said that a deeper awareness of

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these disciplines is essential to solving tough problems in the present. “I regard humanities as the treasure house of ideas,” he said.

The notion that the humanities and social sciences play an important role in national security has also been articulated before by such figures as David Skorton, Cornell University’s president (and a member of the commission). “When I hear military leaders talking about winning the so-called hearts and minds of people in other countries, the way I translate that is all based on humanistic and social science disciplines,” he said in a “state of the university” address. “That requires that we understand the language, the culture, the religion, and the values of those societies—and that is the humanities.”

At the same time, the humanities and social sciences will have significant ground to make up if they are to achieve parity with STEM fields, which have received significant public attention and investment. President Obama’s proposed budget for 2012 seeks \$100 million to train teachers in these fields over the next decade.

The commission’s effort to bolster the humanities and social sciences also takes place amid hard times for those disciplines. In recent months, the State University of New York at Albany has called for the closure of three foreign language departments, as well as classics and theater; Howard University will terminate majors in classics, anthropology and other fields in order to place greater emphasis on STEM training and Africana studies; and members of Congress have sought citizen input on which grants, most of them in the social and behavioral sciences, should be cut from the federal research budget.

In her remarks on Thursday, Berlowitz cited other dire data from the academy’s humanities indicators, including a 46 percent decline over the past 30 years in the number of humanities degrees conferred as a proportion of all bachelor’s degrees. In addition, more than half of all students graduating from American high schools in 2006 could not demonstrate basic knowledge of history; over a third lacked basic knowledge of civics, she said. Berlowitz

argued that the relative decline of the humanities over the past half-century occurred as higher education became more widely available to larger swaths of the population, many of whom wanted to be sure the investment would pay off in the form of a first job. Careerism crept into the vocabulary of academe, and business degrees grew to become the most popular major.

John W. Rowe, chairman and CEO of Exelon Corporation and co-chair of the committee, said that he sees the results of these trends in the workplace. Many employees have poor writing skills, and demonstrate an ignorance of history and weak knowledge of geography and foreign cultures. “There usually seems to be money that’s findable for the sciences, but the liberal arts are always struggling for resources,” he said. But Rowe was also careful not to place the sciences and humanities—or, for that matter, a practical and liberal education—in opposition to each other. “I’d never discourage college students from thinking about how to have productive or remunerative employment,” he said. “I don’t think trying to be wise and trying to be useful are in conflict.”

News of the commission’s formation met with hearty approval from one advocate for the humanities. Rosemary G. Feal, executive director of the Modern Language Association, found it particularly heartening that the commission was created as a result of a bipartisan request, especially in an environment in which deep cuts have been proposed to the humanities and the arts. But Feal also wondered whether there will be money to ensure that the commission’s recommendations will be adopted. “The question is not whether this commission will succeed—I have no doubt of that,” she wrote in an e-mail. “It’s whether the federal funders will do their part to ensure that the vision of the commission becomes a reality.”

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**Full Article Online At:**

[http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2011/02/18/new\\_commission\\_to\\_advance\\_the\\_cause\\_of\\_the\\_humanities\\_and\\_social\\_science](http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2011/02/18/new_commission_to_advance_the_cause_of_the_humanities_and_social_science)

## How Science, Policy, Gender, and History Meet each Other Once a Year Reflections on Our Symposium at the AAAS 2011 Meeting

by Dr. Pnina G. Abir-Am, Resident Scholar, WSRC  
Brandeis University, 515 South Street, MS 079, Waltham, MA. 02454  
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The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Annual Meeting provides historians of science with a unique opportunity for outreach into the scientific community, as well as into the world at large. The Meeting further provides attendees with an entrée into the most recent, even urgent issues of concern on “science and society.” In a previous issue of the HSS *Newsletter*, Bruce Lewenstein of Cornell University, made a special plea for participation of all STS scholars in AAAS Annual Meetings. [See <http://www.hssonline.org/publications/Newsletter2011/January-aaas.html>] My experience with the 2011 conference could help others decide how best they could contribute to such a gathering.

I participated as one of three speakers in a symposium co-organized by Alan J. Rocke, a leading historian of European chemistry at Case Western Reserve University and the outgoing Chairman of Section L. (History & Philosophy of Science), and Penny J. Gilmer, a chemist at Florida State University, leader of the NSF-Advance consortium of five Florida institutions, and co-editor of an upcoming volume on the significance of Mme Curie’s Centennial for science education. She also provided co-sponsorship of the proposed Symposium by AAAS’s Section C (Chemistry).

Our Symposium, “Celebrating the Centennial of Mme Curie’s Nobel Prize in Chemistry” greatly benefited from this collaboration between an historian of science and a scientist, most notably in securing an optimal range of complementary speakers: a scientist, a general historian, and a historian of science. Moreover, the panelists covered key themes, including the experimental and theoretical aspects of Mme Curie’s discoveries; her reception as a woman scientist in America in the 1920s; and the changing patterns of her commemorations throughout the 20th Century. The first speaker, Patricia (Trish) Baisden, a nuclear chemist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory,

discussed Mme Curie’s experimental procedures in discovering radioactivity, polonium, and radium with detailed graphics of the laborious distillation processes. She also displayed many original photos given to her by a former director of the Radium Institute in Paris, while asking intriguing questions such as whether Mme Curie had a sufficient experimental basis to claim the discovery of polonium when she did. (Yes, she did! even by current standards) Trish further enlightened us on subtle distinctions between nuclear chemists such as herself and radiochemists, both “descendants” of Mme Curie’s discoveries: one branch is more physical and the other more chemical, as befits the progeny of the inter-disciplinary discovery of radioactivity.

The second speaker, historian Julie Des Jardins of Baruch College/ CUNY-NYC, spoke on the long-lasting American fascination with Mme Curie, ever since her visits to the US to collect donated radium in 1921 and 1929. She emphasized how Mme Curie’s public image as a woman scientist was adjusted to fit gender stereotypes, such as the claim that her science was “maternal” or that she practiced it primarily for the sake of curing cancer. The impact of such a distorted public image on generations of women scientists is further elaborated in her recent book, *The Madame Curie Complex, The Hidden History of Women in Science*, which builds upon the work of eminent scholars, such as Margaret W. Rossiter, as well as women scientists, most notably Caroline Herzenberg and Ruth Howe.

My talk, the third and last, discussed the concept of commemorative practices in science<sup>1</sup>, the stimulus

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<sup>1</sup> As in *Commemorative Practices in Science*, (University of Chicago Press, 2000) which includes a dozen historians of science, many from the US, and twice that number of case studies, edited by Pnina G. Abir-Am and Clark A. Elliott; and *La Mise en Memoire de la Science* (Paris: Editions des Archives Contemporaines, 1998) edited by Pnina G. Abir-Am, which

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they provide for conducting new research in history of science, and potential ramifications for science policy. I began with analyzing new data I have recently collected on Mme Curie's commemorations throughout the 20th century, while pointing toward a pattern of increasing globalization. Earlier anniversaries were marked primarily in France and Poland, (her adopted and native countries) culminating with the Curies' reburial in the mid-1990s in the Pantheon, the graveyard of great French minds, (or as Mona Ozouf put it, "L'Ecole Normale des Morts") in a state-sponsored major event. This symbolic act made Mme Curie the first woman to be so honored for her own scientific accomplishments.

By contrast, in the post-Cold War era, the centennial of the discovery of radioactivity in 1998 became global with major anniversaries being held not only in France and Poland but also in the US and Japan. The latter, perhaps for reasons related to the trauma of the atomic bomb, i.e. some form of applied research in radioactivity, marked the 1998 centennial over a year long program, in half a dozen Japanese cities<sup>2</sup>, including the participation of many scientific societies, representing the medical, physical, and chemical sciences.

Second, I showcased the work of several historians of science whose research helped dispel the gender stereotypes long shrouding Mme Curie's public memory, especially in America. They included: (in alphabetical order) Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent of the University of Paris who clarified the emergence of Mme Curie's scientific dynasty with elder daughter Irene and son-in-law Frederic, both using the surname Joliot-Curie, becoming Nobel co-laureates for the discovery of artificial radioactivity in 1934, the year of Mme Curie's death. I also mentioned Soraya Boudia of the University of Strasbourg, who clarified Mme Curie's intense preoccupation with

metrology as well as her role as lab director who trained a contingent of women scientists; J.L. Davis of University of Kent, UK who established Mme Curie's role as leader of a research school including a diverse mix of both French and foreign, women and men scientists; Helena M. Pycior, of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, who clarified Mme Curie's status as the primary investigator in her collaboration with husband Pierre Curie; and Xavier Roque of the Autonomous University of Barcelona, who established that Mme Curie's extensive collaboration with the radium industry was a central part of her identity as a scientist. For reasons of time, I could not dwell on many biographical studies of Mme Curie, works which are already better known since they cater to a wide public. But I did flash a slide from a 1996 French film in which Mme Curie was played by Isabelle Adjani. Since Trish had previously shown Mme Curie's portrayal by Greer Garson in the 1943 American film based on the first biography of Mme Curie, (by younger daughter Eve) the audience could thus compare Mme Curie's imagery on film half a century apart.

Third, I drew attention to the pertinence of Mme Curie's work, life, and career for public debates in our own time on the under-representation of women in science, while offering half a dozen or so "lessons." Included among these lessons were: emigration as a condition for pursuing science by wo/men from peripheral countries; diversifying one's collaborative strategies with other scientists, including one's own spouse, so as to preserve one's "scientific credit" especially when one is a junior scientist, a woman, or a member of some other disadvantaged group; cooperation with industry as a source of financial independence; and coping with the international flow of research associates, including women, in periods of great social change such as the aftermath of WWI.

Last but not least, I drew attention to Mme Curie's life as a case study in resourceful balancing of an intense and demanding career with child rearing, again with the help of a highly emotive visual device: a photo of Mme Curie and her children in 1906. I thus emphasized that her daughters were born both before and after the discovery of radioactivity in 1898, (i.e. Irene in 1897 and Eve in 1904) possibly in

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includes a majority of French case studies and authors. Contrary to persistent rumors, one book is not a translation of the other: 3 out of 12 authors appear in both books but each wrote a different paper for the two volumes.

<sup>2</sup> Some of those locations became associated with the tsunami of March 2011, most notably Sendai and Yokohama, though many commemorative events were held in Tokyo.

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order to help a century later, when a public debate on the balancing of career and family life by women in science is still raging. The photo thus conveyed that having children does not preclude discoveries and vice versa, that is, discoveries do not preclude women scientists having children. I also asked whether a better familiarity with Mme Curie's life by leading figures in public debates regarding the under-representation of women in science could have spared us a year-long spectacle of historically uninformed "hypotheses" being floated as reasons for this under-representation<sup>3</sup>.

The session, which unfolded without glitches, (except for failing to get the Skype connection so as to enable co-organizer Penny J. Gilmer, then still recovering from a car accident, to watch us from afar) was attended almost to capacity (~160). Possibly this was so because it was scheduled in a great time slot, the first full day of the 5-day conference, at 10 a.m. and in an accessible auditorium on the first floor of the Washington Convention Center. The Nobel allusion in its title may have been responsible for the fair number of men in the audience, since they rarely attend "women's topics."

Still, my experience with our Symposium went beyond the opportunity it had given me to justify the organizers' confidence in my ability to contribute to their program. Two unexpected revelations were equally important. The first had to do with the realization that by offering a unique opportunity to engage with a wider public, the AAAS had reactivated my dormant jocular tendencies. Though I did not specifically prepare anything funny, the lively response to my humoristic presentation style

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3 The three reasons floated by L Summers in this order were: 1) women's lack of interest to work long hours; 2) women's innate lesser aptitude for science; 3) gender discrimination. The latter was however not only listed as the last and least factor but further described as deriving from socialization, thus implying a normative condition which need not be changed. The debate which became known as the debate that "won't go away" (*New York Times*, 5-12-05) is resurfacing periodically, most recently in the *Chronicle of Science Education*, and *PNAS*, both articles on 2-7-11. For details see my "Gender and Technoscience: A Historical Perspective", *Journal of Technology Management and Innovation*, 5 (1) 2010, 152-165, also at [www.jotmi.org](http://www.jotmi.org)) which also discusses the wider historical context of that debate.

persuaded me that I should engage in such public talks more often. This is a useful lesson, coming as it does not too long before the release of a sure to be controversial book.

The second revelation was my grasping of a connection between my topic (how the Curie centennial had been historically observed) and the opportunity to engage in activism by sharing a petition calling upon scientific organizations to practice gender inclusiveness in seeking contributors for ongoing Centennials of Mme Curie's Nobel in Chemistry, the rationale for UNESCO's declaration of 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry. Our Symposium may have been rare in having an adequate, perhaps even more than adequate, representation of women speakers and organizers. Organizations other than AAAS appear to have a surprisingly low presence of women scientists and scholars in programs which purport to honor Mme Curie. [For a copy of the petition, please contact the author.]

To conclude, the AAAS Symposium in which I agreed to participate despite some initial ambivalence due to the time and effort that such large-scale meetings demand, turned out to be an amazing experience. Our Symposium not only enabled me to combine scholarship and activism in a way I value as being more professional than being an Ivory tower recluse, or alternately serving the public "only." These two are Janus-faced endeavors, and we should not shy away from stepping up to the plate when a rare opportunity arises to combine scholarship with activism for a great cause. Moreover, meeting soul mates among those who came to the podium to express interest in the talk, the petition, or both, further inviting me to speak in their institutions, was absolutely divine.

Regretfully, I must cut this short even though the AAAS Annual Meeting included a host of other "attractions" well beyond our Symposium. In particular, I hope to keep you informed on how the Mme Curie Centennial is unfolding with regard to scientific and historical organizations becoming more aware of the need to include more women scientists and scholars in their programs.

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**It is an honor to recognize and record here our supporters for 2010.**

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## UPCOMING CONFERENCES



### **HSS 2011**

Cleveland, OH, Renaissance Hotel, 3-6 November. Co-located meeting with SHOT and 4S



### **HSS 2012**

San Diego, CA, Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel, 15-18 November. Joint meeting with PSA



### **HSS 2013**

Boston, MA, Westin Waterfront Hotel, 21-24 November. 100th Anniversary of Isis



## **Other Meetings**

### **2012**

American Association for the Advancement of Science 2012 meeting. Vancouver, BC 16-20 February (group discounts available for HSS members)



### **2012**

The 7th British-North American History of Science meeting (hosted by HSS). 10-13 July 2012, Philadelphia, PA. (Sponsored by the American Philosophical Society, the Chemical Heritage Foundation, the University of Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science)

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