

International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology NEWSLETTER

Fall 2002

Twenty-sixth Issue

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Planning Intensifies for 2003 Meeting in Vienna

President's Semiannual Report

The ISHPSSB activities in the last few months include continuing to plan for ISHPSSB 2003 in Vienna, finalizing appointments of committees, and selection of a new web master.

ISH03 Program Chair Rob Skipper and I visited Vienna in July 2003 and met with our local hosts from the Konrad Lorenz Institute, Werner Callebaut, Gerd Muller, and Astrid Juette. They were very helpful, and we appreciate all their time and hospitality. The venue for the meeting is a section of the University of Vienna, known as the "Altes AKH" (pronounced "ahltes ah ka hah"). You will see that name on city maps just outside the ring road and on signs on the many bike paths. It is a campus-like setting with linked courtyards of buildings surrounding green space; in the middle of some of the courtyards are benches to sit down, small beer garden restaurants, and even a small supermarket with a deli counter for sandwiches. It will be a very pleasant oasis for our meeting in the midst of a vibrant, beautiful, historic city. Check out the new link on the ISHPSSB web page with details about hotels, site seeing, visa requirements, and after-conference tours. I will have more to say about Vienna plans and venues in the spring Newsletter.

Three new committees have been established and populated: the Membership Development Committee,



*Workshops at the KLI often commence by filling the main hall.
Photo from KLI website.*

the Student Advisory Committee, and the 2007 Site Selection Committee. Their members are listed on page 2.

Todd Grantham chairs the Membership Development Committee, and they have been active in developing a membership flyer that can be printed and taken to meetings. Give a copy to a friend and spread them

Continued on next page.

Contents

New Committee Members: 2; 2007 Site Selection: 3; Travel Contributions Requested: 3;
Marjorie Grene Prize: 4; ISHPSSB 2003 Vienna Program: 6-7;
Calls for Participants, Contributors, Papers: 8-10; Dibner Event: 10-11; Websites of Interest: 11;
Council Addresses: 12

around when you attend appropriate meetings. Also, Todd arranged for a table at the HSS/PSA meetings in Milwaukee to be staffed by ISHPSSB grad students (with help from Terry Sullivan) where membership flyers will be distributed. Also, he designed an ad for the program. The committee is discussing ways to make the Society better known to prospective members; send any ideas you may have on this to Todd <granthamt@cofc.edu>.

Now is the time for invitations to host 2007 to be submitted to Michael Dietrich; the deadline is December 1, 2002. The location should complement the ISH03 Vienna, Austria, and the ISH05 Guelph, Canada, venues. See the guidelines printed on the ISHPSSB web page.

Valerie Hardcastle served the Society well as webmaster from 1998 to 2002. She designed and maintained a very professional page that members continue to find quite useful. Rob Skipper has graciously agreed to serve as the next web master. He will, of course, have much to do on the web as Program Chair for ISH03, but he has also agreed to continue as webmaster after that meeting is over. The URL will not change for the time being. Our sincere thanks to Valerie and Rob for their work on this important and demanding job.

Now that Keith Benson is living in Washington, DC, he and I meet about once a month to discuss ISHPSSB business, from my perspective, a pleasant occasion. Happily he is willing and able to continue as ISHPSSB

Treasurer, despite his new duties at the National Science Foundation. He will be returning to his home in the other Washington about once a month and thus that address is the one he is using for ISHPSSB business.

Check out the Program Bulletin Board on the web page and begin thinking about sessions to propose for ISH03. The deadline for abstracts and session proposals to Rob Skipper is February 1, 2003. The program will be finalized by March 1, and those whose papers are accepted must register by April 1 to be included on the program. This procedure is needed because in the past some people sent abstracts but were unable to attend the meeting and entire sessions collapsed. So please keep these dates in mind. It will be a good idea to reserve your hotel space as soon as



ISHPSSB President Lindley Darden. Photo from University of Maryland web pages.

you are sure you are coming, as Vienna is a busy tourist city in July (see the new link on the web page to the agent handling hotel reservations and the options from luxury to inexpensive).

SEE YOU IN VIENNA FOR ISH03, JULY 16-20!

New and Improved ISHPSSB Committees

ISHPSSB 2001-2003 Membership Development Committee

Todd Grantham, Chair <granthamt@cofc.edu>
Rob Skipper <skippera@email.uc.edu>
Thomas Potthast <potthast@uni-tuebingen.de>
Michelle Little <myl658@hotmail.com>
Jason Robert <jrobert@is.dal.ca>
Kenneth Reisman <kreisman@csl.stanford.edu>
Ida H. Stamhuis <stamhuis@nat.vu.nl>

ISHPSSB 2001-2003 Student Advisory Committee

Terry Sullivan, Chair <tsullivan@wisc.edu>
Vivette Garcia Deister <Vivettegd@aol.com>
John Emrich <alnghwy@gwu.edu>
Catherine Kendig <ckend01@students.bbk.ac.uk>
Christina Matta <cmatta@students.wisc.edu>
Scott Thomson <sthomson@vt.edu>
Jason Zinser <jayzins@yaho.com>

ISHPSSB 2007 Site Selection Committee:

Michael Dietrich, President-Elect, Chair
<Michael.Dietrich@Dartmouth.EDU>
Jane Maienschein <maienschein@asu.edu>
Jessica Pfeiffer <pfeiffer@umbc.edu>

ISHPSSB 2003 Program Committee:

Werner Callebaut <callebaut@kla.univie.ac.at>
Heather Douglas <hdouglas@ups.edu>
Joan Fujimura <fujimura@ssc.wisc.edu>
Christiane Groeben <groeben@alpha.szn.it>
Tom Kane <thomas.kane@uc.edu>
Michael Lynch <mel27@cornell.edu>
Phil Sloan <Phillip.R.Sloan.1@nd.edu>
Betty Smocovitis <bsmocovi@history.ufl.edu>

Site Selection for 2007 Proposal Deadline Approaches

The site selection committee, composed of Michael Dietrich (chair), Jane Maienschein, and Jessica Pfeifer, invites proposals to host the 2007 meeting for ISHPSSB.

Guidelines for proposals are on the Society's website <<http://www.phil.vt.edu/ishpssb/inviteguide.html>>. Proposals must address costs, accessibility of the meeting site for international travelers, meeting space, accommodations, meals, coffee breaks, and informal gatherings for ca. 250-350 people, personnel, and resources available to perform the clerical and organizational jobs, and wheelchair access (which is specifically required by a vote of the Society's membership).

Because the Society wishes to rotate the venues of its

meetings so as to provide members from different regions opportunity for access to the meetings, we will take into account whether proposed sites complement the most recent venues, specifically Seattle, Oaxaca, Quinnipiac, Vienna, and Guelph.

Any questions regarding proposals or the site selection process should be directed to
Michael Dietrich
Department of Biological Sciences
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 03755
(603) 646-1389, FAX (603) 646-1347
<Michael.Dietrich@Dartmouth.edu>

DEADLINE for proposals is December 15, 2002.

Student Travel Funding Depends on Your Contributions

This paragraph is addressed to members of the Society who have steady employment. Many presentations at the 2003 Vienna meeting will be made by students and independent scholars, people with limited



The courtyards between buildings at the University of Vienna include beer gardens and places for casual conversation. Photo by Lindley Darden.

economic resources and limited access to support for their participation in the meeting.

We urgently need contributions to our travel fund, which is used to facilitate attendance by students and, if we have the margin, needy independent scholars. A few generous members are able to make sizable

donations, but the proportion of members contributing to the travel fund has slipped. You can give at any time — and every contribution matters! In spite of our limited resources, this fund makes an enormous difference. By attracting new members to the meetings, travel grants contribute importantly to the long-term existence of our society and encourage the scholarship and research that we aim to foster. Your generous contributions, all of which will be greatly appreciated, should be sent to the society's treasurer, Keith Benson, 13423 Burma Rd. SW, Vashon Island, WA 98070, USA.

For your convenience, we accept donations through the web site by following the membership link and simply designating your contribution.

Students and independent scholars should also contact Keith Benson by April 1, 2003, regarding exact procedures for applying for travel assistance. A committee representing our diverse membership will award funds. Further details follow in the Travel Award policy adopted recently.

ISHPSSB Graduate Student Travel Policy

Adopted 2002

In general, ISHPSSB endorses a graduate student travel policy that provides at least partial funding for all eligible graduate students, rather than full funding for

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only a few graduate students. To implement this policy, the following criteria *should* be considered in making travel awards.

1. The first priority is to fund students presenting papers at the biennial conference or participating in ISHPSSB governance.

2. The second priority is to provide funding for students who have never received previous funding.

3. The third priority is to provide funding for students who did not receive funding at the previous ISHPSSB meeting.

The exact amount of funding provided by ISHPSSB, recognizing that the Society cannot provide complete funding for all graduate students, shall be calculated by the ISHPSSB treasurer with the following criteria as guidelines.

- * total amount of ISHPSSB funding available
- * relative cost of travel from home to site of meeting
- * ability of participant to provide additional resources for travel (allowance for distinctive differences in standards of living)

Additionally, all graduate students will be expected to supplement the travel award at a comparable level regardless of funding provided by ISHPSSB. Thus, if travel costs and awards from Europe to the conference site are \$750, while travel costs and awards from the US are \$450, the students in both cases will be expected to bear an equivalent share of the additional expenses (for example, if additional expenses amount to \$150, in both cases the students will be expected to assume those charges).



Benches line the walkways around the University of Vienna, where ISHPSSB members will meet in 2003. Photo by Lindley Darden.

Society Looks to Award Marjorie Grene Prize

ISHPSSB seeks submissions for the 2003 Marjorie Grene Prize. This prize is intended to advance the careers of younger scholars, and will be awarded to the best manuscript based on a presentation at one of the two previous ISHPSSB meetings (Oaxaca or Quinnipiac) by someone who was, at the time of presentation, a graduate student.

It is very appropriate for ISHPSSB to name this prize in Marjorie Grene's honor. Not only does her work in the history and philosophy of biology exemplify the strong spirit of interdisciplinary work fundamental to ISHPSSB, but she played a central role in bringing together diverse scholars of biology even before the formation of the Society. She has been a valued mentor to many members of the Society and a long-standing inspiration to all.

The award will consist of a certificate and up to \$200 toward expenses incurred in attending the 2003 meeting of the Society. If the manuscript is not already under review by a journal, the prize committee will promote the winning entry to one of the leading journals.

Submissions should be in the form of a paper prepared for submission to a professional journal, with an indication of the journal in question. Hardcopy submissions must include three complete copies of the paper and be mailed no later than February 1, 2003. Electronic copies, in Microsoft Word or text only format, must be emailed no later than February 8, 2003. The winning entry will be announced by April 15, 2003.

Send manuscripts to: Kelly Smith, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Clemson University, 113 Holtzendorff Hall, Clemson, SC 29634-2508, USA, <kcs@clemson.edu>, (864) 656-5366.

The winner's name will be engraved on a plaque, along with previous winners. The plaque will travel to the winner's home institution for the duration of the biennium.

CALL FOR PAPERS: ISHPSSB 2003

International Society for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology

Where: Vienna University, Vienna Austria

When: July 16-20, 2003

The ISHPSSB Program Committee welcomes proposals for individual papers and sessions on topics related to all facets of the history, philosophy, and social studies of biology.

Forms for submitting proposals will be available on the World Wide Web, July 16, 2002 at

<http://www.phil.vt.edu/ishpssb/submissions/program.html>

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: FEBRUARY 1, 2003

While participants are strongly encouraged to submit proposals for Panels, Roundtables, Discussion Sessions, or innovative and experimental sessions, individual papers are welcome as well. All Proposals must include an organizer and his or her address, including an e-mail address.

There will be some travel funds available to support graduate students presenting papers at the conference. For further information about available funding, please contact Keith Benson, 13423 Burma Rd. SW, Vashon Island, WA 98070, USA; <krbenson@centurytel.net>.

The International Society for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB) brings together scholars from diverse disciplines, including the life sciences as well as history, philosophy, and social studies of science. ISHPSSB summer meetings are known for innovative, transdisciplinary sessions, and for fostering informal, co-operative exchanges and on-going collaborations.

For further information consult the ISHPSSB web pages at <http://www.phil.vt.edu/ishpssb/>.

Contact **Rob Skipper**, ISHPSSB Program Chair 2003, Department of Philosophy, University of Cincinnati, 206 McMicken Hall, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0374 USA; Phone: (513) 556-6340; Fax: (513) 556-2939; email: skippera@email.uc.edu.

ISHPSSB 2003 Program Committee: **Werner Callebaut** (Philosophy, Konrad Lorenz Institute for Evolution and Cognition Research and Department of Sciences at Limburgs Universitair Centrum, callebaut@klu.univie.ac.at), **Heather Douglas** (Philosophy, University of Puget Sound, hdouglas@ups.edu), **Joan Fujimura** (Sociology, University of Wisconsin, fujimura@ssc.wisc.edu), **Christiane Groeben** (History, Stazione Zoologica, groeben@alpha.szn.it), **Tom Kane** (Biology, University of Cincinnati, thomas.kane@uc.edu), **Michael Lynch** (STS, Cornell University, mel27@cornell.edu), **Phil Sloan** (History, University of Notre Dame, Phillip.R.Sloan.1@nd.edu), **Betty Smocovitis** (History, University of Florida, bsmocovi@history.ufl.edu).

Update from the ISHPSSB 2003 Program Bulletin Board

Further updates can be found at: <<http://oz.uc.edu:8000/~skippera>>

The pages contain some important information, plus online forms for submitting ideas (a Program Bulletin Board), papers (Individual Paper forms), and sessions (Session Proposal forms). Check back regularly or contact Rob Skipper for more information.

Submissions to the Bulletin Board to date include the following proposals:

Ecology Transformed

Ed Hackett <ehackett@asu.edu>

I'd like to organize, co-organize or take part in a session concerned with recent changes in the social organization, theoretical foundations, policy connections and practices of ecology. I come to the topic through a study of research groups in various fields of science, some empirical work at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis in Santa Barbara, and participation in an LTER.

Others working on ecology??

Research Integrity and the Practice of Biomedical Science

Fred Grinnell
<frederick.grinnell@UTSouthwestern.edu> and
Rivers Singleton <oneton@udel.edu>

Issues concerning integrity in biomedical science have become prominent in the international research community and raise questions about how the community should respond. The United States response has been primarily pedagogical as typified by the National Institutes of Health mandate to teach "the proper conduct of biomedical research." Rivers Singleton and Fred Grinnell, both American biomedical researchers who are interested in the philosophy of practice of science and who teach about research integrity, would like to organize a workshop on integrity in biomedical science. A major workshop goal is to gain an international perspective on the subject and to explore ways that "practice of science"



Vienna 2003 Program Chair and new web master Rob Skipper. Photo from University of Cincinnati web pages.

and science education can illuminate issues of integrity in biomedicine. Consequently, we seek suggestions and potential contributions from counterparts in both the US and other countries. — Interested participants should reply to either Fred Grinnell or Rivers Singleton. When responding to one individual, please Cc the other proposer.

Bio-Adversity: ESA at 30

Mark Madison
<mark_madison@fws.gov>

2003 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Endangered Species Act an ongoing experiment to outlaw extinction. Several species have attracted more controversy

than others due to cultural preconceptions, environmental assumptions, or changes in the life sciences. Snail darters, Northern spotted owls, grizzly bears come quickly to mind as species that are perhaps more difficult to restore than say ducks, elk, or bison. We would like to examine some of these more controversial cases (e.g., captive breeding, non-charismatic species, large predators) as a means to illustrate the difficulties inherent in applied conservation biology.

Issues in Sociocultural Evolution

Marion Blute <marion.blute@utoronto.ca> and Sigrid Glenn

It is well known that evolutionary theory has been extending its reach beyond the biological and into the social sciences including specifically linguistics, science and technology studies, institutional economics, archeology, and the sociology of organizations for example. Darwinism (in the general theory, analogous or memetic sense) holds great promise for helping social scientists understand how constraints, chance, the weight of history and the forces of selection combine to explain the existing array of cultural and social forms. At the same time it raises a whole host of issues about the logic of functional analysis in this context; mechanisms of inheritance; units, levels and the evolution of complexity; the relationship among

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evolutionary and other kinds of principles; and the prevalence of competition, conflict and cooperation for example — many of which are familiar from biological theory and research but others which are unique to the social sciences or even to one or more of its many specialized branches. Participation is solicited for one or more sessions which explore issues in sociocultural evolution.

Biology Education: Critical Perspectives and Approaches

Charbel El-Hani <charbel@ufba.br> and Steve Fifield <fifield@udel.edu>

We invite papers that examine biology education from historical, philosophical, sociocultural and other critical perspectives. Potential topics include (but are not limited to) using the history, philosophy, and sociocultural studies of biology in biology teaching; reshaping the goals, practices, and effects of biology education using perspectives from science studies; and historical, philosophical, and sociocultural studies of biology education.

Objectivities in Biology

Heather Douglas <hdouglas@ups.edu>

In the early 1990s, a series of historical pieces by authors such as Daston, Galison, and Porter made clear that the view of what constituted objectivity has shifted, or accreted new meanings on top of old, over the past few centuries. This session would explore the different senses or aspects of objectivity expressed or pursued in the biological sciences, and how those aspects have shifted as the history of biology has unfolded.

Environmental Values/Bio

Heather Douglas <hdouglas@ups.edu>

Historically, new insights in ecology and field biology have influenced environmental views and values, but many ecologists now complain that environmentalists are ignoring developments in science. For example, environmentalists often still point to mature old-growth forests as deserving of special protection because they are the “endpoint” or climax stage of forest development, despite the rejection of this view by current ecological theory. This panel would look at mutual constructions and interactions between environmentalism and biology both historically and in recent case studies.

Biology in Policy-making

Heather Douglas <hdouglas@ups.edu>

Reliance on biological science for the making of policy has never been greater, particularly as more emphasis is placed on the understanding of biological mechanisms for shaping policy. However, such use raises multiple issues, including 1) what role biologists should play in the policy-making context, 2) what the implications are for the use of biology in policy-making, 3) where and whether a science/policy



The Lorenz Mansion at the KLI viewed from the garden. Photo from KLI website.

distinction should be drawn (IF it can be clearly demarcated). This panel would explore these questions, offering comparisons among different national contexts.

Social Values in Biology

Heather Douglas <hdouglas@ups.edu>

While the negative influence of social values on the development of biological sciences is quite famous (Lysenkoism, sexist reproductive theories, etc.), whether and how social values play a positive role in biology has been less explored. This panel would aim to begin filling in that gap, addressing questions such as: 1) How have social values helped spur the development of biological theories? 2) How have social values spurred or directed the focus of new discoveries? 3) Do these social values eventually get “weeded out” or do they remain a part of biology indefinitely?

Other Organizations Seek ISHPSSB Member Input

Call for Participants

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is funding a 5-week institute, from Monday, June 23, 2003 to Friday, July 25, 2003, on "Science and Values," directed by Sandra D. Mitchell and Peter K. Machamer at the University of Pittsburgh. The participants will investigate the various roles values play in scientific theory and practice. The idea that scientific objectivity is "value free" will be contrasted with claims for the necessity of social values. Visiting lecturers are Paul Griffiths, Hugh Lacey, Dominic Murphy, Kristen Schrader-Frechette, and Alison Wylie. By NEH regulations, attendance is limited to U.S. citizens or non-citizens with at least 3 years residence in the U.S. Those attending the conference will receive a stipend of \$3,250 to cover their travel and boarding costs. Thirty college and university teachers will be selected to attend. For more information on the Science and Values Institute and application materials, please visit the website at <http://www.pitt.edu/~pkmach/valuesci.htm> or e-mail valuesci@pitt.edu.

Call for Contributors

Biographical Dictionary of Nineteenth-Century British Scientists (Thoemmes Press). Contributors sought to write entries for three of the subject areas: Botany, Natural History, and Illustration. Contributors of small entries of 600 words or less receive 35 pounds (\$50), of medium entries of 600-2,500 words receive 60 pounds (\$85), and of large entries of 2,500-4,000 words receive 100 pounds (\$140). To find out which entries are still open, interested and qualified scholars should contact Suzanne Le-May Sheffield suzannes@is.dal.ca for Illustration; John Waller ucgajcw@ucl.ac.uk or Sam Alberti sam.alberti@man.ac.uk for Natural History; and Richard Bellon bellon@physics.umn.edu or Peter Stevens peter.stevens@mobot.org for Botany. You can see a list of Botany entries at: <http://www.tc.umn.edu/~bello012/Botany.htm>.

Calls for Papers

Biomolecules

We would like to invite you to contribute to Ancient Biomolecules. Ancient Biomolecules encompasses all types of biomolecule and the

methodologies used in their investigation. Particular emphasis is placed on papers addressing either or both of two broad topics: factors influencing the preservation or decay of biomolecules in ancient materials, and the exploitation of ancient biomolecules in understanding the biological past.

Ancient Biomolecules particularly welcomes papers outlining: the discovery of previously undetected biomolecules in ancient materials, the characterization of biomolecular decay products, decay pathways, explanations of the observed stability of biomolecules unpredicted by in vitro experiments. Equally welcome are studies on: human evolution, migration and past social organization, the origins and evolution of domesticated animals and plants, the identification of biomolecular markers for disease organisms, biomolecules carrying stable isotope signals, isotope dating studies, chemosystematic, chemotaxonomic and phylogenetic studies, or the description of ancient biospheres.

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The main hall at KLI welcomes visitors. Photo from KLI website.

For further details on how to submit a paper, please visit: <<http://www.tandf.co.uk/newtandf/authors/g-authors/461/461-nfc.htm>>. Please submit a 200-word abstract of your paper by e-mail as soon as possible. Completed papers (three copies) should be sent to the Editor Terry Brown <terry.brown@umist.ac.uk>, Department of Biochemistry & Applied Molecular Biology, UMIST, M60 1QD UK. Rejected manuscripts will not normally be returned. To receive table of contents alerts for this title, please visit: <<http://www.tandf.co.uk/sara>>

Historical Biology

We would like to invite you to contribute to Historical Biology. Historical Biology provides a vehicle for developments in the sciences concerned with the history of life through geological time and the biology of past organisms, and seeks to encourage a diversity of approaches in this rapidly expanding field. It emphasizes modern and controversial topics. Its range includes paleobiology, paleoethology, paleobiogeography, evolutionary processes and patterns, molecular paleontology, extinction, phenomena, taphonomy, and aspects of geology, geochemistry and geophysics that have a direct bearing on paleobiological questions.

For further details on how to submit a paper, please visit: <<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/authors/g-authors/357/357-nfc.htm>>. Please submit a 200-word abstract of your paper by e-mail as soon as possible. Completed papers (three copies) should be sent to the Editors Richard Boyd and David Martill at the following: Roger D.K. Thomas <R_THOMAS@ACAD.FANDM.EDU>, Franklin and Marshall College, Department of Geosciences, PO BOX 3003, PA, 17604-3003 USA; David Martill <David.Martill@port.ac.uk>, Department of Geosciences, University of Portsmouth, Burnaby Building, Burnaby Road, PO1 3QL UK.. Rejected manuscripts will not normally be returned. To receive table of contents alerts for this title, please visit: <<http://www.tandf.co.uk/sara>>.

“Encoding Altruism: The Art and Science of Interstellar Message Composition.”

On March 23-24, 2003, the second in a series of international workshops on interstellar message design will be held in Paris. The workshop will focus on two broad themes: first, the interface of art, science, and technology in interstellar message design; and second, how to communicate concepts of altruism in interstellar messages. Papers addressing other topics related to interstellar message construction will be

considered on a space available basis. For detailed information, see <http://publish.seti.org/art_science/2003>. Participation is by invitation only. Each potential participant should send a 200-word abstract of his/her proposed paper and either a c.v./ resume or a URL describing professional background to <altruism@seti.org> no later than December 1, 2002. The workshop is sponsored by The SETI Institute; Leonardo/OLATS (Leonardo Observatory for the Arts and Technosciences); The John Templeton Foundation; The International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology; and The International Academy of Astronautics Permanent SETI Study Group.

Southwest Colloquium in the History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences

Sponsored by Arizona State University (Department of Biology, Program in Biology and Society) and the University of Texas at Austin (Program in the History and Philosophy of Science).

The Southwest Colloquium in the History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences is a newly established annual event that includes a one day Graduate Student Symposium and a one day Faculty/Graduate Student Workshop devoted to a specific topic that will be held on alternating years at Arizona State University and the University of Texas, Austin.

The annual Graduate Student Symposium will take place on a Friday and will feature presentations by graduate students on any topic in the history and philosophy of the life sciences, although preference will be given to papers that are related to the topic of the Faculty/Graduate Student Workshop. All submissions will be subject to peer review. There will be a Keynote Address by an outstanding researcher in the evening. The Keynote Speaker will also participate in the Faculty/Graduate Student Workshop.

The keynote speaker for next year's meeting at Arizona State University is renowned environmental historian Alfred Crosby (Prof. emeritus, University of Texas at Austin).

The Faculty/Graduate Student Workshop will take place on Saturday and will focus on a different topic in the history and philosophy of the life sciences each year. Workshop papers will be pre-circulated and each will have one or more commentators. The topic for next year's meeting, to be held at ASU Feb. 21-22 is “Historical and Philosophical Issues in Conservation Biology.”

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Deadline for submission of abstracts is December 1st 2002. Abstracts can be submitted to either one of the organizers. Abstracts of graduate students will be considered for both events.

Limited Funds are available to support graduate student travel to attend the meeting. For more information please contact Manfred Laubichler <manfred.laubichler@asu.edu> or Sahotra Sarkar <sarkar@mail.utexas.edu>.

Position Announcement: Vilas Professorship

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee invites applications and nominations for the prestigious Vilas Professorship in the Humanities. In seeking to fill the Vilas Professorship, our preference is to recruit someone whose scholarly achievements are in modern culture (e.g., literature, cultural studies, intellectual history, film/media, performance studies). Specialty is less important than the qualities the candidate will bring to the university community.

The Vilas Professorship affords generous research and travel support to a scholar who will continue to produce extraordinary, significant, and vital research and publication, and who will provide intellectual leadership within the humanities and the university.

Applications will be reviewed beginning November 15, 2002 and will continue until the position is filled.

Applications and nominations should be addressed to: Professor Jane Gallop, Chair, Vilas Search Committee, Department of English, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Box 413, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

UWM is an AA/EO employer and educator strongly committed to maintaining a climate supporting equality of opportunity and respect for difference based on gender, culture, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age and lawful activities. We particularly encourage applications from individuals who would enhance and diversify our work force.

Editor's Note: Although it may not be evident that science studies falls within the ambit of the search, the committee is excited to attract qualified candidates from our field.

Dibner Institute Supports Research on the Business of Life

The Dibner Institute held its seminar in the History of Biology at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, May 15-22, 2002, to study "The Business of Life: Life Sciences in the Twentieth Century." John Beatty, James Collins, and Jane Maienschein co-organize this series of history of biology programs, and this year Rachel Ankeny and Nicholas Rasmussen coordinated the week-long seminar.

The group explored a range of collaborations across the life sciences and industries through the century, asking questions about the complex relations among scientists, the research they do, funding sources, and the businesses that they support and are supported by. What counts as a life science, and what is biotechnology, John Ceccati asked in his look at the brewing industry, taking us from "Beer to Bioetchnology and Back Again." Ceccati's laboratory demonstrations added a new dimension to the scholarly discussions. John Perkins looked at the politics and business of environmental protection and resources management, focusing on the science and politics of yield assessments and their implications.

Peter Neushul introduced us to mariculture as an example of technology transfer, or in this case as technology non-transfer since the technology that is so successful in Asia has found only small support in the United States. He asked why, and what this tells us about the science, the technology, and our social and policy responses — or lack thereof. William Summers asked what is an industry, and what relationships have developed over time between bacteriology and industry, with what restraints and what values? Sarah Jansen looked at pests: what is a pest, who says, on what grounds, and what do they do about it? She pointed to pest control as a form of hygiene, parallel in some important ways to other hygiene studies and movements in the first half of the twentieth century. Nick Rasmussen brought us hormones, and the grinding up of animal organs to find and produce hormones. How many people knew that the Armour Company produced hormones and hormone research alongside its hot dogs?

Joanathan Simon focused on cancer and chemotherapies, post WW II and conceptualized as a "war" or "attack" on this disease. Relations of curiosity-driven and mission-oriented research, public

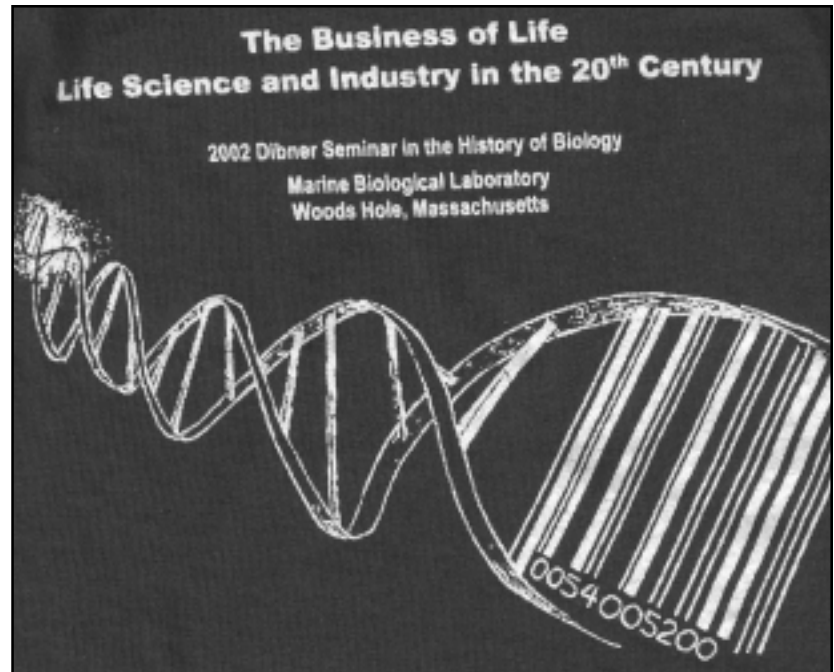
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interests and public funding, rapidly expanding pharmaceutical interests, all within changing social and political contexts revealed this as a tremendously rich topic. Rachel Ankeny and Robert Cook-Degan brought us the Human Genome Project and its assumptions and implications, and Charles Weiner looked at the recombinant DNA debates in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in the 1970s as related and as helping to set the stage for reactions to the genome project.

This seminar, far from presenting a closed set of polished papers, served to introduce the complexities and opportunities of study of these rich interactions between the life sciences and industry. "Funding" of science is not just money; rather venture capital and grants and contracts are all quite different and have vastly different goals for the researchers accepting them. Historians of the life sciences would benefit, we realized, from closer attention to economic and business history. National and local contexts matter, of course, but so do the global reaches of international companies and interests. The life sciences may not be different from technology or the physical sciences in many ways, but insofar as they are about us and carry different health and safety concerns, and insofar as industry begins to work with biotic products and to change life, new questions arise. Historians have only begun to realize what these questions might be, and there is great opportunity to explore them. Let us not leave all the social and ethical implications to bioethicists, the group decided, but

rather include studies of the changing bioethical context and implications in our historical studies.

One message to graduate students and younger scholars is this: here is a huge area ripe and rich for study. We need historians to take up the challenge, and to be willing to carry out the serious scholarly historical study as well as to engage the larger world



that is interested in issues of biotechnology, industry, and the life sciences. This seminar began that discussion. If people want to participate in the next round of thinking together, contact Chris Young <cyoung@aero.net> about possible sessions at various future meetings.

Websites of Interest

The Virtual Laboratory, a new website devoted to the experimentalization of life, is online. It collects and presents texts and images concerning various aspects of the experimentalization of life, such as instruments, experiments, sites, and people. Moreover, it contains a special essay section where historians publish and discuss their research on experimentation in the life sciences, art, and technology. Visit <<http://vlp.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de>>. For more information, email <vlp@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de>

International Union of History and Philosophy of Science Online. You might be interested in the new web site of the Division of History of Science of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science. You can find it at: <<http://ppp.unipv.it/dhs>>. The site includes information about the Division, a selection of internet links, news and a Database of Historians of Science. It is possible to register yourself in the database by filling in a form (available on the web), specifying institution, mailing address, and fields of interest. Submitted by Fabio Bevilacqua, Assistant Secretary of DHS

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