

PACIFIC CIRCLE NEWSLETTER



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PACIFIC CIRCLE NEWS

This summer the Pacific Circle marks its 12th anniversary at the 20th International Congress of History of Science in Liège, Belgium. The dates of the meeting are **20-26 July**. As in the previous three congresses—at Berkeley, Hamburg and Zaragosa—the Circle will hold a symposium and a business meeting.

Although the Liège program is not yet finalized, our symposium will include two sessions:

Exploration and Natural History of the North Pacific, chaired by ROY MACLEOD

W. CONNER SORENSEN, "German Naturalists in Russian America, 1800-1867"

R.D.K. HERMAN, "Deflowering Natural Science, Sexuality and Colonization in the Hawaiian Islands"

KEITH R. BENSON, "Natural History in the Frontier West"

JANE SAMSON, "'That Extensive Enterprise': H.M.S. *Herald's* North Pacific Survey, 1845-1851"

MARC ROTHENBERG, "'In Behalf of the Science of the Country': The Smithsonian and the Navy in the North Pacific in the 1850s"

Museums of the Indo-Pacific, chaired by FRITZ REHBOCK

ROY MACLEOD, "Post-Colonialism and Museum Knowledge"

DAVID G. FRODIN, "Tropical Biology and Research Institutions in South and South-East Asia, 1870-1930"

Although deadlines are drawing near, additional papers are still sought for both sessions. Interested participants should contact Fritz Rehbock (frehbock@hawaii.edu; fax: 808-956-9600), no later than **April 15**.



A Pacific Circle session is now being assembled for the 1997 meeting of the **History of Science Society**. The meeting is scheduled for **5-9 November 1997** at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in La Jolla, California. Anyone wishing to propose a theme or present a paper in our session should be in touch as soon as possible with ROY MACLEOD (roy.macleod@history.su.edu.au; fax: [612] 9351-3918). Paper topics across the full Pacific spectrum are invited: discovery and exploration, indigenous natural knowledge, expeditions and museums, missionary science, oceanography and fisheries, Arctic and Antarctic voyages, cross-Rim contacts and comparisons, etc.

Program chairs for the meeting are BRUCE HEVLY and MARGARET SCHABAS, while DEBORAH DAY and BOB WESTMAN are in charge of local arrangements. All administrative matters will be handled through the Executive Office. For registration information, contact: HSS Executive Office, Box 351330, Seattle, WA 98195-1330 USA; phone: (206) 543-9366, fax: (206) 685-9544.



"Science in the Pacific: From Voyages of Discovery to New Dimensions" was the theme of our most recent session, at the **Third British-North American Joint Meeting** of the Canadian, American and British history of science societies,

held in Edinburgh, Scotland, 23-26 July 1996. Participant **PETER HOFFENBERG** has kindly provided us with the following account of the session and meeting in "Auld Reekie."

"The conference in historical and hospitable Edinburgh drew an array of international scholars and graduate students to consider the theme 'Crossing Boundaries.' The Pacific Circle's late-morning session was well attended and provoked lively discussion, some of which continued at local pubs and eateries.

"**ROY MACLEOD** (University of Sydney) chaired the panel, providing introductory remarks about the Circle and its members' efforts to cross various geographical and disciplinary boundaries. The panel opened with a paper by **PETER HOFFENBERG** (University of Hawaii), "'We are Like Dwellers in the Desert': Nineteenth-Century Exhibitions and the Invention of Australian Science.' Hoffenberg discussed the ways in which scientists from New South Wales and Victoria embraced both local and international fairs as ways not only to conquer the dilemmas of isolation and distance, but also to legitimate themselves and the scientific enterprise in their 'new' country. The talk focused on scientific exhibits and the activities of scientists as exhibitors and officials between 1851 and 1888.

"The panel continued with **GORDON MCOUAT**'s "Dynamic" Boundaries in the Pacific: The Strange Case of Bunzo Hayata's "Dynamic System." This lively paper introduced the classificatory activities of Hayata, a late-19th-Century Japanese scientist active in Formosa. McOuat, who teaches at University of King's College, Halifax, asked the audience to consider the ways in which Hayata's taxonomies and surveys might have challenged European classifications and our customary assumptions about 'Western' and 'Eastern' science.

Did Hayata's seemingly dynamic, multi-dimensional schema pose a significant alternative to the orthodoxy of Darwin and Linnaeus? The talk also raised queries from the audience about the relationship between Japanese science and colonial rule, providing a link with various other papers on modern Asian scientific questions.

"Finally, **ROY MACLEOD**'s paper on 'Post-colonialism and Museum Knowledge: "Hybrids" and National Identities in the Museums of the Pacific' considered the public and scholarly roles of such institutions since the 19th century. He raised questions about the style of representation in museums and how to approach collections from a 'post-colonial' perspective. Might we move towards the 'living museum' model in which natural history and human culture are seen as living, environmental processes, rather than only as artifacts? MacLeod's talk was richly illustrated with slides and transparencies from various Pacific museums, as he traced their trajectory since Sydney's early museum in the 1840s, reminding us that the museum idea was at the heart of civic development and national identity in Europe and its colonies.

"A special thanks to Fritz Rehbock for his organizational assistance in securing the necessary abstracts and resumés, as well as his cyberspace persistence with the program chairs. He was missed (and toasted) in Edinburgh in '96, but perhaps can raise his own pint in Liège in '97."



Speakers in Edinburgh: (l. to r.) Roy MacLeod, Peter Hoffenberg, Gordon McOuat. (Photo courtesy of Peter Hoffenberg.)

We report, with great regret, the death of our correspondent for Ecuador **EDUARDO ESTRELLA** (1941-1996). A prominent member of the community of Latin American historians of science and medicine, Estrella was a physician as well as a scholar and teacher. He died on 27 March, sadly the day on which the election was held for dean of the School of Medicine of the National University of Ecuador. Estrella was a leading candidate in the election.

Estrella had been a member of the Pacific Circle since its inception. An obituary by Jorge Cañizares Esguerra appears in *Isis* 87(4) 1996, 671-2.

CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

15-17 February 1997. The 9th Annual Symposium on Maritime Archeology and History of Hawaii and the Pacific will be held at the Hawaii Maritime Center. Accepted abstracts will cover topics concerning maritime history and underwater/coastal archeology in Hawaii and the Pacific Basin. Deadline for abstract submission was 15 December 1996. The symposium will include two days of lecture presentations and one day of field trips. For information and registration forms, contact

Marine Option Program
University of Hawaii
1000 Pope Road, #229
Honolulu, HI 96822 USA
Phone: (808) 956-8453
Fax: (808) 956-2417
E-mail: mop@hawaii.edu

17-18 March 1997. The March meeting of the **Green College Science and Society Discussion Group**, University of British Columbia, will feature a discussion and mini-workshop on "The Meanings of Measurement," by guest speakers **THEODORE M. PORTER** (UCLA) and **BRIAN WYNNE** (University of Lancaster). Inquiries:

Stephen Straker
Arts One / History
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada V6T 1Z1
Phone: (604) 822-6863
Fax: (604) 822-4520
E-mail: straker@unixg.ubc.ca

21-23 March 1997. The **Columbia History of Science Society** meeting has changed dates due to the AAAS meeting being rescheduled to President's Day weekend in February, but will again be held at Friday Harbor. For more information, contact:

Judy Green
History of Science Society
Executive Office
University of Washington
Box 351330
Seattle, WA 97195-1330 USA
Phone: (206) 543-9366
Fax: (206) 685-9544
E-mail: hssexec@u.washington.edu

12-13 April 1997. "Mastering Nature, Mastering the World: Science and Power" is the theme of the upcoming **West Coast History of Science Society Annual Meeting** to be held at Claremont Colleges, Claremont, California. Professor **JOAN CADDEN**, soon to be at the University of California at Davis, will be this year's featured speaker. This meeting traditionally provides a friendly forum where graduate students can present their work and more established scholars can let their colleagues know what they have been up to. Presentations should be planned to run about 20 minutes. Deadline for submission of paper and/or session titles was **31 January**. Interested participants will be sent a list of local hotels from which to make their own arrangements. Please send paper titles and requests for lodging information to:

Pamela H. Smith
History Department
Pomona College
551 North College Ave.
Claremont, CA 91711-6337 USA
E-mail: psmith@pomona.edu

29-31 May 1997. "New Perspectives on Alexander von Humboldt" will be explored at an international symposium at the Georg-August-Universität in Göttingen, Germany. The keynote address, "The Many Humboldts of the Biographical Literature," will be delivered by the conference organizer, Prof. **NICOLAAS RUPKE** (Göttingen). The ensuing sessions are intriguingly entitled: "Towards a Geography of Humboldt's Fame," "Humboldtian Visualizations," and "Body, Gender and Self-Experimentation." Inquiries:

Prof. Nicolaas Rupke
Humboldtallee 36
D-37073 Göttingen, Germany
Phone: 49-551-39-9006/-9467
Fax: 49-551-39-9554/-9748
E-mail: nrupke@gwdg.de

1-7 June 1997. "Issues of Science and Technology in the 21st Century" will be the theme of an international, interdisciplinary symposium in Seoul, marking the 20th anniversary of the **Korean Science and Technology Foundation** (KOSEF—the Korean equivalent of the

National Science Foundation in the U.S.). It is also the 30th anniversary of the Korean Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). KOSEF is marking the occasion with a symposium drawing together an international cast of leading specialists to explore issues of science and technology in the coming century. The symposium is co-organized by the East-West Center, Honolulu. An exciting program has been prepared by JEWAN KIM (jewan@jewan.snu.ac.kr), Professor of Physics at Seoul National University; and JOHN BARDACH (bardachj@ewc.hawaii.edu), Senior Fellow at the East-West Center. Details of the program are available from
 KOSEF Symposium
 East-West Center
 East-West Road
 Honolulu, HI 96848 USA
 E-mail: loomisr@ewc.hawaii.edu

22-26 June 1997. The Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will meet at Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon. Papers in history of science are welcome; abstracts are due 10 April 1997. Inquiries:

Alan Leviton
 Pacific Division AAAS
 California Academy of Sciences
 San Francisco, CA 94118
 Phone: (415) 752-1554

4-13 July 1997. Philfest 97, a series of overlapping conferences, is being organized from the Philosophy Department of the University of Auckland (New Zealand). The four participating organizations include: Australasian Association for Logic (4-6 July), Women in Philosophy (4-7 July), Australasian Association for Philosophy (6-11 July) and Australasian Association for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Science (9-13 July).

If interested in attending, reading a paper, or being put on a mailing list, please send your name and address to *either* the Philfest 97 Secretary via postal mail *or* the organizers via e-mail (see addresses below). For more information, contact:

Philosophy Department
 University of Auckland
 Private Bag 92019
 Auckland, New Zealand
 Phone: +64 9 3737 599 ext. 7491
 +64 9 3737 799
 Fax: +64 9 3737 408
 E-mail: philfest@auckland.ac.nz

13-19 July 1997. The VIII Pacific Science Inter-Congress of the Pacific Science Association will be

hosted by the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji. This Inter-Congress will focus on islands and their development in the 21st century. Goals include: emphasizing the role of science and technology in the development of islands; reviewing and sharing progress and research findings in key areas in natural and social sciences relevant to islands; reviewing developments, achievements, problems, and prospects of Pacific islands; and reviewing the relevance of gender issues and development in the Pacific islands.

The early registration deadline was 31 January. For more information, contact:

Dr. Mahendra Kumar, Secretary-General
 VIII Pacific Science Inter-Congress
 c/o School of Pure and Applied Sciences
 The University of the South Pacific
 P.O. Box 1168
 Suva, FIJI

Phone: (679) 314-007 (direct)
 (679) 313-900 ext. 2691 or ext 2430
 Fax: (679) 314-007
 Email: psa@usp.ac.fj
 URL: <http://ruve.usp.ac.fj/~psa/contact.htm>

Official travel and accommodation arrangements are handled through Tapa Tours. July is traditionally the peak tourist period for Fiji. It is important, therefore, that hotel bookings are secured early. Direct all enquiries about travel and accommodation bookings to:

Tapa tours
 Phone: (679) 302333
 Fax: (679) 302048,
 E-mail: tapa@is.com.fj

16-20 July 1997. The International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology will hold its biennial meeting at the University of Washington, Seattle. KEITH BENSON will be the local arrangements chairman. For program inquiries, contact the Program Committee Chair, Bob Richardson: robert.richardson@uc.edu

30 July-9 August 1997. The 1997 International Geological Conference will celebrate the bicentenary of Charles Lyell and James Hutton. The conference will begin in London with the Geological Society of London (30 July-3 August) and will continue in Edinburgh with the Royal Society of Edinburgh (5-9 August). In London, the focus will be on the achievements and impacts of the work of Lyell; in Edinburgh, the past, present and future relevance of Hutton's theories. Lectures will include contributors of international renown and will be interspersed by discussion periods.

They will be followed by visits to classical sites linked with Hutton and Lyell. For more information, contact:

The Conference Office
The Geological Society of London
Burlington House
Piccadilly, London W1V 0JU UK
Phone: 0171 434 9944
Fax: 0171 439 8975
E-mail: conf@geosoc.cityscape.co.uk

9-11 September 1997. "History of Science as Public Culture" will be the theme of the 50th anniversary conference of the **British Society for the History of Science** at the University of Leeds. The conference will "explore ways in which the enterprise of history of science has functioned in public culture and within academia, particularly in Britain during the past fifty years." The primary focus will be on "the role played by the history of science in public culture—in public debate, in public celebrations, in museums, and in visual and printed media. In addition, the conference will consider the extent to which scholars in other disciplines have responded to the history of science as an academic discipline, and will examine the British tradition of academic history of science from an international perspective." Inquiries:

Dr. John Topham
Darwin College
Cambridge CB3 9EU UK

26-27 September 1997. The **Society for the History of Natural History** will host a two-day meeting on maritime exploration, at Discovery Point, Dundee, Scotland. Topics proposed include: *Discovery* and her successors, *Scotia*, whaling captains, ships' surgeons, ships' naturalists, and the role of the Royal Navy. The organizers hope the meeting will also cover "exploration in the southern hemisphere as well as exploration of inland rivers in South America, North America and Africa." Inquiries:

Mike Taylor
Perth Museum and Art Gallery
George Street
Perth PH1 5LB UK
Phone: (44 01738) 632-488

Fall 1997. The **Royal Meteorological Society History Group** and the **Challenger Society** will hold a one-day joint meeting at Southampton. The topic: "Studies on CO₂ in the Atmosphere and Oceans." Inquiries:

R. Lewis
c/o Royal Meteorological Society
104 Oxford Road
Reading RG1 7LJ UK

16-19 October 1997. The **Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)** will hold its next annual meeting in Pasadena, California, at the Doubletree Hotel. The meeting will be hosted by the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens. Proposals are welcome for individual papers and session topics related to all facets of the history of technology. Proposals for individual papers must include an abstract of not more than one page and a one page curriculum vitae, including current postal and e-mail addresses. Proposals for complete sessions should include a description of the session's general topic; a list of the presenters' names and paper titles; an abstract and c.v. for each of the presenters; and a c.v. for the commentator, the chairperson and the session organizer. The session description should indicate how each of the papers within the session is relevant to the topic at hand. Completed proposals, postmarked by **10 April 1997**, should be sent to:

Prof. Miriam R. Levin
SHOT Program Chair
Program in History of Technology and Science
History Department
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, OH 44106 USA
Phone: (216) 368-2380
Fax: (216) 368-4681

5-9 November 1997. The **History of Science Society** will hold its annual meeting in La Jolla, California. See above, p. 1.

16-22 March 1998. "Technological Transformation of Science and Society," is the theme of an international conference to be held in Tokyo, Kyoto, and Hiroshima, Japan. According to the organizers:

The world is changing radically by virtue of technological transformation. Not only the production system and economic structure, but also our daily life and value system are now subject to the fundamental transformation. Although science is regarded as the backbone of technological society, public understanding of scientific knowledge is seriously questioned. We believe it is time to examine the reality and the problems of undergoing technological transformation. Our conference aims at providing a wider international forum to discuss this issue for those who are interested in research and education on Science, Technology and Society in the country which had rare experience with the A-bomb.

Key topics for sessions include: "Network Assessment of Science," "Transnationalization of Corporate Science," "Technology and Media," "Science and Technology under Cold War," "International Relations in the Post-Nuclear Age," "Science and Technology in Asia," "Japanese Studies on STS," "MITI

and Innovation Policy," "Implication of STS on Science Education," "Science Education Policy," "Human Resource," and "Cultural Studies," "Expertization and Public Awareness," "Gender, Medicine and Daily Life," and "Social Epistemology of Science, Religion and Science."

Invited speakers include: PETER WEINGARD (University of Bielefeld), MICHEL CALLON (CSI, Paris), RUSTUM ROY (Penn. State University), SHEILA JASANOFF (Cornell University), ROBERT YAGER (University of Iowa), ARIE RIP (Twente University), MORRIS LOW (Australian National University), SONG SANG-YONG (Hallym University, Korea), DEEPAK KUMAR (NISTAD, India).

Organizing committee members are: YOICHIRO MURAKAMI (Deputy Chair for Committee of Science and Technology Policy, OECD, International Christian University), SHIGERU NAKAYAMA (Kanagawa University), MIWAO MATSUMOTO (Tokyo University), SHIN-ICHI KOBAYASHI (University of Electro-communications), HIDETO NAKAJIMA (Tokyo Institute of Technology), TOGO TSUKAHARA (Tokai University), and MASASHI SHIRABE (Shinshu University). For more information, contact:

Fax: +81 463 50 2241
(c/o Togo Tsukahara)
E-mail: sts@kob.is.uec.ac.jp

September 1998. The Sixth International Congress on the History of Oceanography will be held during the second week of September 1998 in Qingdao, China. ICHO6 will be hosted by the First Institute of Oceanography, and will last about 5 days. Inquiries:

Mr. Gonke Tan
First Institute of Oceanography
Hongdao Road 3A
Qingdao 266003, P.R. of China
Fax: 86 532 287-8209

4-9 July 1999. XIXth Pacific Science Congress, Sydney, Australia. Secretary-General for the congress is WILLIAM O'SULLIVAN. Inquiries:

William O'Sullivan, Dean
Faculty of Biological and Behavioural Sciences
University of New South Wales
Sydney 2052, Australia
Phone: +61 (2) 385-2009
Fax: +61 (2) 385-1086
Email: W.O'Sullivan@unsw.edu.au

Circa **12 September 1999.** The Fourth International Conference of the History, Philosophy and Science Teaching Group, will be held at Pavia University, near Milan, Italy. Inquiries:

Professor Fabio Bevilacqua
Dipartimento di Fisica
"A Volta"
Università di Pavia
Via A. Bassi 6
27100 Pavia, Italy

RECENT MEETINGS

"Nature and Natural Philosophers in Early Modern Europe," arranged by MARY TERRALL (Center for the Study of Women, UCLA), PAMELA SMITH (History, Pomona College), and THEODORE PORTER (History, UCLA), was held on Friday and Saturday 6-7 December 1996 at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library. It was sponsored by the UCLA Center for 17th - & 18th - Century Studies and continued the *New Directions* series.

The Eighth International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia was held at Seoul National University, 26-31 August 1996, and drew 163 participants. The program chair was KIM YUNG SIK, while the local organizing committee was chaired by JEON SANG-WOON.

The following plenary lectures were delivered on the opening day of the conference:

XI ZEZHONG (Institute for History of Natural Sciences, Beijing), "Current State of Scholarship in China on History of East Asian Science"

NAKAYAMA SHIGERU (President, ISHEASTM), "Spread of Chinese Science into East Asia"

PARK SEONG-RAE (President, Korean History of Science Society), "Pride and Prejudice in Historiography: the East Asian Cases"

Plenary symposia on the following topics occupied the mornings:

"Western Science and the Transformation of East Asian Sciences"

"Medical Practitioners in East Asian Societies"

"Scientific Institutions of Modern East Asian Societies"

"Intellectual Background of the Traditional East Asian Sciences"

One evening was devoted to a memorial session for Joseph Needham, with talks by FRANCESCA BRAY, SONG SANG-YONG and NATHAN SIVIN.

Many thanks to Pacific Circle council member SONG SANG-YONG for providing copies of the conference program and photo.

An International Conference on Science, Technology and Culture took place at the Taedok Science and Technology Center, Taejon, Korea, on 21-23 January



***8th ICHSEA, Seoul, Aug. 26 -31, 1996 ***

Photo courtesy of Sang-Yong Song.

1996. It was organized by the **Korean Science Writers Association**, the **Korean History of Science Society**, and the **Korean Society for the Philosophy of Science**.

A welcoming reception was given by Korea's Minister of Science and Technology, **CHUNG KUNMO**. The keynote addresses:

"The Progress of Scientific Technology and the Poverty of Values," by **KIM TAE-KIL** (Seoul National University)

"Is Scientific Culture a Curse or a Salvation?" by **ZHANG HWE IK** (Korean Society for the Philosophy of Science)

"The Sources of Scientific Technology," by **RICHARD S. WESTFALL** (Indiana University)

OSU LECTURE SERIES

"What We Know to be True: Argument and Evidence," is the theme of the **Thomas Hart and Mary Jones Horning Endowment in the Humanities 1996-1997** lecture and colloquium series at Oregon State University.

The lectures include: "Instruments of Evidence: The Changing Nature of Experimental Proof and the Sources of Reliable Knowledge," by **DIANA BARKAN** (California Institute of Technology); "Fictional Evidence? Walter Scott's Notes for the Waverly Novels," by **ROBERT MAYER** (Oklahoma State University); "Positivist Philosophy and the Evidence of Things," by **THEODORE PORTER** (UCLA); "On the Strange Tension between Evidence and Subjectivity: The Memory Craze in Contemporary Culture," by **ALLEN MEGILL** (University of Virginia); "Stress in the Book of Nature: The Supplemental Logic of Galileo's Mathematical Realism," by **MARIO BIAGIOLI** (Harvard University); "Persuasion: Places for Logic and Evidence in Early Victorian England," by **JOAN RICHARDS** (Brown University); "Evidence for What? When Values and Rigor Clash," by **LARRY LAUDAN** (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico).

A colloquium will be held on "Historical Perspectives on Evidence and the Law" to include the following: "Knowing the Hand: Forgery and the Question of Evidence in Eighteenth-Century England,"

RANDY MCGOWEN (Department of History, University of Oregon); "Evidence of Insanity and the Law of Will Cases in Nineteenth-Century America," JAMES MOHR (Department of History, University of Oregon); "Laughing the Evidence out of Court: The Policing of Gender in the Late Nineteenth Century," ANGUS MCCLAREN (Department of History, University of Victoria). Commentators: KATHLEEN MOORE (Department of Philosophy, Oregon State University); IRVING HOROWITZ (Department of Psychology, Oregon State University); LAIRD KIRKPATRICK (School of Law, University of Oregon).

Additional speakers and events: "What's in a Name? Bedlam/Bethlem-the History of an Institution," by ROY PORTER (University College of University of London and the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine) and "The Classic Vinaigrette: What Seventeenth-Century French Medical Chemistry Has to Do with What We Eat," by RACHEL LAUDAN (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico). For more information, contact:

Marilyn Bethman
Department of History
Oregon State University
Milam Hall 306
Corvallis, OR 97331 USA
Phone: (541) 737-3421
Fax: (541) 737-1257
E-mail: bethmanm@cla.orst.edu

or

Paul Farber
E-mail: farberp@cla.orst.edu.
Mary Jo Nye
E-mail: nyem@ucs.orst.edu
Robert Nye
E-mail: nyer@ucs.orst.edu

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Dr. RUTH BARTON, who moved in 1993 from the School of Social Sciences at the Curtin University of Technology in Perth to the History Department at Auckland University in New Zealand to accept an Associate Professorship, received an award of US\$10,000 from the Templeton Science-Religion Course Programme for her Stage II Tamaki paper, "Science, Religion, and Politics: Historical Case Studies."

Last October, Pacific Circle Vice-President ROY MACLEOD was inducted a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and the following month was welcomed into the Fellowship of the Australian Academy of the Social Sciences. A double congratulations, Roy!

NEW PROGRAMS

Science and Human Affairs. A new interdisciplinary program in the history and philosophy of science commenced at the University of Auckland in 1996. Initiated by Associate Professor Ruth Barton (History), Associate Professor Robert Nola (Philosophy) and Dr. Willie Smith (Geography), it is the first course in New Zealand that draws on a wide range of disciplines and courses already taught in the University as well as a set of new team-taught courses. Students will be able to major or minor in this new program, but individual courses will also be available to most people in the University. The teaching program has been a stimulus to collaborative research—Dr. Barton, Dr. Smith, and Dr. Derek Dow (Medical School) have begun a joint project on the history of science in New Zealand.

AT&T Jens Virtual Classroom on the Net Program (October 1996-February 1997). The Internet is a communication medium making learning opportunities possible that would have seemed impossible until very recently. This new program creates Virtual Classrooms to be attended by students around the world from grades K-12. The Virtual Classrooms consists of a website, a web-based discussion forum and a real time chat area.

Each of the 50 Virtual Classrooms consists of one Japanese school and two other schools, each from different countries outside Japan. The three schools decide on a collaborative project to undertake for the duration of the program.

As a final presentation each group will design a website that displays the results of their activities. At the end of the program there will be a contest and each of the three schools in the winning group will be presented the "AT&T Jens Virtual Classroom of The Year Award."

The main goal of this program is to help students realize the importance of international collaboration in the world today and to give students who are currently learning about international collaboration an opportunity to experience it first hand. Although the Virtual Classroom Program emphasizes the groups' web presentations, what is more important is the process leading to their completion—bringing three far-flung classrooms together to cooperate and complete a jointly-set goal.

For more information about the AT&T Jens Virtual Classroom on the Net Program, refer to:

URL: <http://www.kids-commons.net/vc/>
This information can also be retrieved via e-mail by sending a blank message to:

E-mail: vc-info@kids-commons.net

Other contacts:

AT&T Jens Virtual Classroom on the Net Program
Secretariat
Global Commons, Inc.
Sunrise-Shinjuku Bldg. 7F, 2-4-15 Okubo
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 169
Japan
Phone: +81-3-3204-8104
Fax: +81-3-3202-2414
E-mail: info@kids-commons.net

or

AT&T Jens Corporation
Special Project Team
#25 Mori Bldg., 1-4-30 Roppongi
Minato-ku, Tokyo 106
Japan
Phone: +81-3-5561-3354
Fax: +81-3-3584-0810
E-mail: info@spin.ad.jp

POSITIONS

Comparative World History. Whittier College. Specialization open, but preference will be given for an assistant professor, tenure-track position to candidates with a combination of two of the following fields: Africa, Asia, Middle East, South America, British Empire. Candidates should also have had a demonstrated ability to teach (with colleagues) a two-semester world history survey. Advanced degree or course work in world, world systems, and/or comparative history is required. Ph.D. in hand or expected by August 1997; women and minorities encouraged to apply. Review of applicants began 1 December 1996 and will continue until the position is filled. Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Send letter of application, c.v., and credentials with three letters of recommendation to:

Robert B. Marks, Chair
History Department
Whittier College
P.O. Box 634
Whittier, CA 90608 USA

Biology and Society. Cornell University seeks to fill a Visiting Assistant Professorship in the Department of Science and Technology Studies for one-year (with possibility of renewal) from August 1997 to July 1998. The successful candidate will play an active role in the Department's under-graduate major in Biology and Society. Teaching responsibilities will include the interdisciplinary core course for the major and two

additional courses in such areas as history of biology, philosophy of biology, gender and science, biomedical ethics, and environmental ethics. Participation in advising both undergraduate and graduate students is expected. Area of specialization open, but favored possibilities include science and technology studies; history; philosophy or sociology of the life sciences; political and social theory; law; or gender studies relating to biology or medicine. Applications from women and members of minority groups are strongly encouraged as Cornell University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

Candidates should submit: (a) a letter of application explaining the relation of their research and teaching interests to the requirements of this position; (b) a curriculum vitae; (c) a sample of written work; (d) a sample syllabus for an undergraduate course; and (e) three letters of recommendation to be sent directly to the Department. Application materials should be submitted to:

Professor Sheila Jasanoff, Chair
Department of Science and Technology Studies
Cornell University
726 University Avenue
Ithaca, NY 14850 USA

Applications will be reviewed starting 1 March 1997.
For more information, contact the Department at:

Phone: (607) 255-6234
Fax: (607) 255-0616
E-mail: li10@cornell.edu,
URL: <http://www.sts.cornell.edu/CU-STS.html>

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES NOTED

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship: Science & Technology Studies (1997-1998). A Mellon Foundation postdoctoral teaching-research fellowship is available in the Department of Science & Technology Studies at Cornell University. While in residence at Cornell, postdoctoral fellows hold department affiliation, and have limited teaching duties and the opportunity for scholarly work. Applicants were encouraged from any of the four component fields of Science and Technology Studies: sociology of science and technology; history of science and technology; philosophy of science and technology; politics and policy of science and technology.

The postdoctoral teaching-research fellowship will begin July 1, 1997 and offers a stipend of \$28,000. All application materials (including letters of recommendation) were to be postmarked on or before

January 4, 1997. Awards will be announced in February 1997. Inquiries:

Ms. Agnes Sirrine, Program Administrator
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowships
Cornell University
A.D. White Center for the Humanities
27 East Avenue
Ithaca, NY 14853-1101 USA
Phone: (607) 255-9274

For further information about the Department of Science & Technology Studies, please contact:

Lillian Isacks, Administrative Assistant
Department of Science & Technology Studies
Cornell University
726 University Avenue
Ithaca, NY 14850-3995
Phone: (607) 255-6234
Fax: (607) 255-0616
E-mail: li10@cornell.edu
URL: <http://www.sts.cornell.edu/CU-STS.html>

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship: History of Science (1997-1998). The University of Oklahoma announced a junior- or senior-level Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in the History of Science for the 1997-1998 academic year. The fellowship will be awarded for research and teaching that explore the intersections of the biological and social at the borders of science and culture, with a strong preference given to historical projects situated at the crossroads of human science, life science, and culture. The Fellowship is open to candidates with doctorates in history, the history of science, science studies, or related fields. The Mellon Fellow will have residence with the University's History of Science Department and the University Libraries' History of Science Collections. The fellow will teach one undergraduate or graduate course in the Fellow's area of interest during the academic year. The fellowship carries a stipend up to \$30,000, with benefits including a budget for travel and research expenses. Applications were to be postmarked by 15 January 1997. Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer. Contact:

Dr. Gregg Mitman
Department of History of Science
The University of Oklahoma
601 Elm, Rm 622
Norman, OK 73019-0315
Phone: (405) 325-6476
Fax: (405) 325-2363
E-mail: gmitman@uoknor.edu

The Harry Woolf Fellowship. Johns Hopkins University's Department of the History of Science,

Medicine and Technology solicited applications from outstanding entering students for a program in the history of early modern science, medicine or technology leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Financial aid includes a generous stipend, full tuition, health benefits, and a research allowance. Assistance is provided for five years contingent on satisfactory progress. Application deadline: 31 January 1997. Awards will be announced on or about 20 March 1997.

The Department is a joint unit of the Schools of Arts and Sciences and of Medicine. It brings together faculty and students whose interests encompass the history of ideas, institutions and practices of science, medicine and technology from classical times to the present. The Department research programs are particularly strong in the history of science, medicine and technology in early modern Europe; science, medicine and technology in 19th and 20th century United States; Russian and Soviet science; and the history of astronomy and space science. Inquiries:

Administrative Assistant
Dept. of History of Science, Medicine
and Technology
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland 21218 USA

A FESTSCHRIFT FOR NATHAN SIVIN, PART II

The latest issue of *Chinese Science* 13 (1996) contains the continuation of a festschrift for Nathan Sivin. Contents: Editor's Introduction; "Finite and Infinite in Greece and China," by GEOFFREY LLOYD; "The Development of Hindu-Arabic and Traditional Chinese Arithmetic," by LAM LAY YONG; "The Use of the Twenty-eight Xiu as a Day-Count in Early China," by MARC KALINOWSKI; "The Evolution and Decline of the Ancient Chinese Practice of Watching for the Ethers," by HUANG YI-LONG & CHANG CHIH-CH'ENG; "Medicine and the Changes are One": An Essay in Divination Healing with Commentary," JUDITH FARQUHAR; "The Published Writings of Nathan Sivin: An Annotated Bibliography," and a review by YUAN-LING CHAO of *East Asian Science: Tradition and Beyond*, edited by HASHIMOTO KEIZO, CATHERINE JAMI, & LOWELL SKAR.

CHINESE ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, No. 3 of the *Chinese Environmental History Newsletter* was distributed in December via e-mail by editor HELEN DUNSTAN. Previously unrefereed, *CEHN*,

which carries both articles and news items, will metamorphose into a refereed journal with the next issue. Dr. Dunstan, formerly at Indiana State University, can now be reached at the Department of Chinese Studies, School of Asian Studies, University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2006 (e-mail: helen.dunstan@asia.su.edu.au). E-mail subscriptions are free; hard copy subscriptions are A\$10 and US\$10 for international airmail, payable to: Chinese Environmental History Newsletter. Subscribers are urged to add a \$2.00 donation to support the distribution of the newsletter to scholars within China.

The contents of the December issue include: Changes to the Newsletter—procedures for article submission and refereeing; Publications and other news; “A Contemporary Village in a Karst Cave: The Case of Feng’ai Dong,” by YIN SHAOting (Yunnan Provincial Museum of Ethnology); “The Political Ecology of Forest Conservation in Xishuangbanna. II. The View from an Upland Dai Village,” by ELISABETH GRINSPOON (UC Berkeley); “The China Geographical Information System Project: An Update,” by LAWRENCE W. CRISSMAN (Griffith University); “Course Syllabus: Science, Technology, and Medicine in China,” by HUGH L. SHAPIRO (University of Nevada, Reno)—an extensive list of readings and references for a 15-week course.

E-NEWS

We hope these e-news clips continue to help in your ‘Net searches, and welcome any comments and suggestions about them. The URLs included in this, and previous, issues of the *Newsletter* are now available through links on our home page:

E-mail: frehbock@hawaii.edu

or alboro@hawaii.edu

URL: <http://www2.hawaii.edu/~alboro/pcn/pcn.html>

As a reminder, all commands in **bold** should be used as is, while all info in <brackets> should be provided (minus the <s>).

Chemical Heritage Foundation. The Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) has a web site providing information on its programs and resources. CHF seeks to advance the heritage of the chemical sciences by discovering and disseminating information about historical resources; encouraging research, scholarship, and popular writing; publishing resource guides and historical materials; conducting oral histories, creating traveling exhibits; and taking other appropriate steps to make known the achievements of chemical scientists and the chemical process industries.

URL: <http://www.chemheritage.org>

Community of Science. Community of Science (COS) is the largest repository of scientific information on the Web, providing rapid, easy-to-use info about scientists and the funding of science—the most important and least understood engine of progress in the world. COS offers structured access through cross-database linkages, and provides information retrieval tools to help researchers solve problems and find funding. COS’s Web site is devoted to the needs of research scientists in universities and corporations worldwide. Its databases may be searched for potential collaborators, for sources of funding, and for researching information on patents, publications, projects, etc.

URL: <http://cos.gdb.org>

FEDIX Opportunity Alert. FEDIX Opportunity Alert!!! is a free service provided by the U.S. Federal Government to help researchers and educators better compete for research and education funding. Beginning with the first working day after registration, daily searches will be made of new sources of federal funding for education and/or research in selected area(s) of interest. The results matching your particular interest(s) will be sent via e-mail to you. To participate in FEDIX Opportunity Alert!!!, visit their web site and select the keywords identifying your area(s) of interest.

URL: <http://www.fie.com/>

Clark Library, Center on the Web. The UCLA Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies and the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library now have two linked home pages on the Humanities Computing server. Among items of interest are academic and public programs, fellowships, Library access policies, a virtual tour of the Library (including photographs), and a link to Melvyl (allowing access to the Library holdings of the entire UC system).

UCLA Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies

<http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/clarklib>

William Andrews Clark Memorial Library

<http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/c1718cs>

The Victorian Web. The Victorian Web features extensive info on Victorianism as well as on the social and political contexts, economics, religion, philosophy, literature, visual arts, science, and technology of the time. It also provides a search tool for related Web resources.

URL: <http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/hypertext/landow/victorian/victov.html>

Grant E-mail Addresses. The following addresses for granting agencies were kindly provided by Martha Lister, College of Arts and Humanities, University of

Hawaii. Through them, current deadlines, addresses, etc., may be obtained.

American Council of Learned Societies Fellowships and Grants and ACLS/SSRC International Postdoctoral Fellowships

E-mail: grants@acsls.org

URL: <http://www.acsls.org>

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Fellowships

E-mail: humboldt@umail.umd.edu

Civil Liberties Public Education Fund grants

E-mail: dtm@ucla.edu

(contact Don T. Nakanishi)

Ford Foundation Predoctoral and Dissertation Fellowship for Minorities

E-mail: infofell@nas.edu

URL: <http://fellowships.nas.edu>

Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

E-mail: fellowships@hrc.utexas.edu

URL: <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/HRHRC/>

John Carter Brown Library Research Fellowships 1997-1998

E-mail: Karen_DeMaria@Brown.edu

**SASAKAWA PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS
FUND ANNOUNCES COMPLETION OF THE
COLLECTIVE WORKS OF HIJIKATA
HISAKATSU**

Collective Works of HIJIKATA HISAKATSU

Volume 1, Society and Life in Palau (1993)

Volume 2, Gods and Religion of Palau (1995)

Volume 3, Myths and Legends of Palau (1996)

Volume 4, Driftwood (1997)

As we conclude the publication of Hisakatsu Hijikata's collected works in English translation, I am struck once again by the profound significance of his ethnological studies in our present-day world. In *Driftwood*, in particular, it is with utter fascination that I perceive anew Hijikata's insight in pointing out how closely the traditional fishing method making use of driftwood, assiduously passed on from generation to generation in the South Pacific, is interwoven in the lives of islanders and how their communal fishing practices foreshadow currently popular concepts such as ecosystem or sustainable economy.

In recording some of the memories of her husband on the occasion of the publication of his collected works, Keiko Hijikata explained this importance.

"When he compiled his diaries detailing a year-long account of life on the island [of Satawal] and published it as one volume, he gave it the title *Driftwood*. When others pointed out that the title would be incomprehensible and would prove to be a drawback, he insisted on using it anyway...driftwood is that closely intertwined in the lives of the islanders and I'm sure that it formed an indelible memory in his mind."

She continues, "When he describes the great fishing dance, his narrative even today overflows with a strong sense of presence.

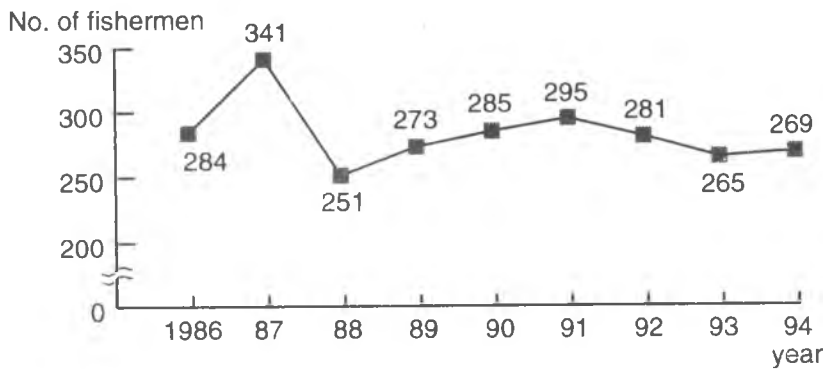
"With shouts of 'merouenu oo, merouenu oo!' (it's driftwood fish!), the village was literally thrown into a state turmoil as everyone ran and jumped about excitedly. They had sighted driftwood floating by off in the distance. Though quite far off, the village bustled with agitation.

"Since fish will frequently be found swimming along with the driftwood in large numbers, everyone on the island becomes excited when any is discovered."

This publication in English translation gave me the opportunity to visit the island of Irabu, a small island at the southern-most extremity of Japan. If you follow the islands in the vicinity, all of which are thrown into a single bag known as the Ryukyu Islands, on a map, you go past strings of small islands that dot the region, including Amami-Oshima, Okinawa and the Nansei Islands, until you finally reach Taiwan. Just a step before Taiwan, you come across the Sakishima Islands (lit. "the islands most forward") and, as the name would indicate, they are the islands most remote from the central part of Japan. Irabu Island is one of them. It is located next to Miyako Island and has a population of some 7,400. The major economic activities on the island consist of primary industries and construction. It is such a small island that, if you had an hour to spare, you could easily drive around the entire circumference. The practice of driftwood fishing that Hijikata found so fascinating on the island of Satawal has also found a welcome home here, though reinforced by modern technology.

Now, half a century after Hijikata made and recorded his detailed observations, the driftwood method of fishing continues to wield a strong impact that has radically changed the economic structure of the island. This substantiates not only his outstanding perceptive capabilities but also the universality of his writings even in our modern-day world.

There are perhaps many who are curious about how this method of fishing became established on the island of Irabu. To tell the truth, there isn't a soul on the island who knows anything at all about Hijikata, much less any



Change in the number of Irabu fishermen engaged in coastal fishing, 1986-1994.

of his relatives. Making our way back through the memories gradually fading away with the passage of time, we come to the year 1973. I was stationed in Australia at the time, engaged in on-site work contracted by the Japanese government. I had a strong desire to visit the battle field on the island of Guadalcanal, certainly one of the most decisive battles between U.S. and Japanese forces during the Pacific War, to enjoy some diving around Savo Straits, where the ocean floor is strewn with the remains of sunken Japanese naval vessels. I flew to Honiara, capital of the Solomon Islands, on Guadalcanal during my Christmas break. I recall that the brilliant, bright red bougainvillea that bloomed along the streets somehow brought to mind the deigo (*Erythrina indica*) of Okinawa.

Though a chance meeting, I came across a large number of Japanese fishermen there. I told them that I myself was from Okinawa and—perhaps my steady barrage of questions prevented them from telling me—it wasn't until the end that they mentioned that they had come from the island of Irabu, far to the south of Okinawa. Still, I wasn't at all sure where it was located and I had even completely forgotten the name of the island. I suddenly recalled it, though, while reading this translation of Hijikata's *Driftwood*.

Guadalcanal was a British protectorate at the time and Taiyo Fishing had set up a large-scale dried bonito plant there and had dispatched a fleet of pole-and-line bonito fishing boats and fishermen. The plant was on the neighboring island of Malaita, which gave me the chance to spend a couple of weeks observing directly the lives of the fishermen there at the plant. At the time I visited them, there were more than 400 fishermen there from the island of Irabu. The operation continued to expand thereafter and, at its peak

in 1978, there were almost 700 Irabu islanders there fishing for bonito.

They used the old Japanese method of pole-and-line fishing; it didn't take them long, though, to become aware of the local islanders' fishing method that took advantage of the habit of bonito and yellowfin tuna to gather around drifting wood. By and by, their term of service came to an end and they returned to Irabu. There, as always, bonito fishing was a seasonal activity. The height of the season is from June through October when the fish come in on the Japan

Current; after that, all the fishermen could do to make ends meet was to take jobs as seasonal laborers or fish for whatever they could catch. Those who came back from their stints on Guadalcanal proposed that they introduce the driftwood fishing method themselves on a test basis. It just might be possible that the bonito swim along with driftwood and migrate through the area all year long.

We probably need another Hijikata to give a brief summary of the long efforts that were made through trial and error. There are now 14 artificial "driftwood" rafts (called *pallao*, as they are called by fishermen in the Philippines), produced at a cost of more than 100 million yen each, moored along the coast, serving as the foundation of the islanders' lives and making stable employment possible through year-round operation. At times during the winter when supplies are otherwise low, transactions on the dock bring as much as 700-800 yen per kilogram, thus enhancing the income levels on the island.

	1990		1991		1992		1993	
	catch (tonnage/ value)		catch (tonnage/ value)		catch (tonnage/ value)		catch (tonnage/ value)	
Bonito	154	60	259	54	277	58	217	45
Tuna	261	124	395	162	350	142	327	120
Other	70	18	73	14	121	27	68	21
Total	484	202	727	230	698	227	612	186

(Source: Irabu-Cho statistical report)

Note: The extent of the impact of the pallao can be understood by the fact that the average annual catch of the coastal fishing industry is about 400 tons for bonito and about 350 tons for yellowtail tuna.

Changes in catches using the pallao (value in million yen).

Ever since the pallao were put in place, the number of islanders in coastal fishing has remained stable, which means that it has become possible to a certain extent to forecast not only employment conditions but even the size of the catch. It can be seen as a fishing method most appropriate for a sustainable system that is not a burden on the natural environment and which prevents the indiscriminate depletion of fishing resources.

Considering the conspicuous departure of the fishing trade that is evident everywhere throughout Japan, this should certainly be seen as a revolutionary development.

Incidentally, I would like to provide a few numerical values that would give a better idea of the impact of the pallao on the economy of the island.

I feel that it is important for the Japanese people to reevaluate once again the wisdom of our ancestors and, in that sense, I can say that I am proud to have been a part of this publication project.

—Takeaki Hori

Professor, Economic-Anthropologist
Advisor, Sasakawa Pacific Island
Nations Fund

This article was submitted by:

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URL: <http://www.spf.org/>

BOOK REVIEWS

Observations Made During a Voyage Round the World, by JOHANN REINHOLD FORSTER (London, 1778), edited by N. THOMAS, H. GUEST, & M. DETTELBACH, linguistic appendix by K. RENSCH (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1996), US\$55.00.

Had the Anglo-Prussian natural philosopher Johann Reinhold Forster been on Cook's third voyage and stumbled on Hawaii, he would have stared out at a people and a landscape that would have been familiar to him. He would immediately have compared the language and customs to those of Tahiti, New Zealand and Easter Island, and the volcanic forms to those of Tahiti, and found many similarities. The peoples, he would have argued, must all have migrated from the same source somewhere in south-east Asia (probably in the Malayan group of islands); the same geological forces must have produced the high volcanic islands.

Comparison over a vast scale lay at the heart of Forster's methodology and he was proud of living in a culture that had the ability to make such comparisons on global voyages of scientific discovery. His *Observations* of 1778, which has been beautifully reissued by the University of Hawaii Press, is an important and early work of many comparative sciences: anthropology, zoology, botany, geology, meteorology, oceanography and linguistics. It has often been seen as a precursor of Humboldtian science—which it undoubtedly is—given the close links between Humboldt and Forster's son George. But it deserves a closer reading on its own merits, as all three editors argue in their useful introductory essays on Forster's comparative ethnology (Thomas), accounts of the varying roles of women in different South Pacific cultures (Guest), and natural history (Dettelbach).

Forster boldly claimed that his "object was nature in its greatest extent" (p. 9). When Forster writes of "nature" we realize how far the modern ecological sensibility is removed from his. A wild and unimproved landscape disgusts him; a cultivated and civilized one delights him: "where man, the lord of creation on this globe, has never attempted any change on it, there nature seems only to thrive; for in reality it languishes, and is deformed by being left to itself" (p. 99). Similarly, a people who have failed to master the landscape, and live a "savage" life in a harsh climate can share little of the physical, moral and social happiness that those who have cultivated the warmer soils possess (p. 220). Thus, of the peoples of the South Pacific, the tropical Tahitians stand at the summit of development, the chillier New Zealanders reside somewhere in the foothills, while the frozen and unfortunate Pesserais (Fuegians) languish at the bottom of the valleys. While these last peoples were unfortunate, they were still human. Forster had nothing but contempt for those who held "the long exploded opinion, that monies are of the same species with mankind." If any man persisted in this foolish opinion, Forster begged "the whole heavenly sisterhood of Eve's fair daughters ... for ever to exclude him from their bright circles: and in case he persists obstinate, may none but the ouran-outangs vouchsafe and admit his embraces" (p. 174).

In some ways, this excellent edition of Forster's main published work stands as a memorial to Forster's modern editor and biographer, Michael Hoare, who died last year. Hoare is constantly referred to by the three editors, and they have made much and profitable use both of the journals he edited and of his biography *The Tacitless Philosopher* (Melbourne, 1976). While Forster may not have endeared himself to everyone, he was a

major intellectual figure in the German and British enlightenment and reading this new edition lets us witness his lively mind at work as he tries to make sense of strange and new environments and peoples in the South Pacific.

—Richard Sorrenson
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A Man Who Can Speak of Plants: Dr. Thomas Coulter (1793-1843) of Dundalkin Ireland, Mexico & Alta California, by E. CHARLES NELSON and ALAN PROBERT (Dublin: published privately, 1994).

Thomas Coulter's name is familiar to many plant lovers in Europe and North America. His life story is now available in a privately published, limited edition. This detailed biography of an interesting 19th-Century traveler is handsomely illustrated and printed on high quality paper. It is based on Coulter family papers and archival research in Mexico, the United States and Europe. The authors have painstakingly provided readers with the first complete account of this multi-talented man. Indeed they have gathered together a remarkable amount of information on Coulter, who we are told was tall, handsome, strong, well-tempered, courageous (or perhaps oblivious to danger), adept in the use of firearms, and among several others things, "addicted to fly-fishing."

Performing duties as a physician, industrial manager, cartographer, explorer, and field collector of plant and insect specimens, Coulter led a diverse life, visiting various areas in his home land of Ireland as well as in Mexico and many parts of California. The title of the book is derived from an 1832 message sent by another botanical pioneer, David Douglas, who wrote from Monterey, California about his recent first encounter with Coulter: "I do assure from my heart it is a terrible pleasure to me to find a good man and a man who can speak of plants...."

The book includes a full transcript of the hitherto unpublished manuscript of Coulter's famous "Notes of Upper California" (1835). The authors point out that he can, in some ways, be compared "to his greater contemporary, Alexander von Humboldt, who collected avidly but published little in the way of botany." Humboldt, of course, "relied upon his amanuensis, Carl Kunth, to do that," while Coulter had no one to publish his descriptions. Unfortunately, Coulter did not live to write the books he wished to put to pen.

Although he was respected and admired by his contemporaries, according to authors of his biography, Thomas Coulter "has to be viewed as a collector of specimens, rather in the manner of the eighteenth century, imbued with the desire to have 'one of everything.'" Nevertheless, Coulter, whose name is commemorated in the big-cone pine (*Pinus coulteri*) and the beautiful matilija poppy (*Romneya coulteri*), was more than a traveler and plant collector who sent Mexican cacti to botanical gardens in Europe. He became a significant figure in Irish entomology. In America, he managed silver mines for the Anglo-Mexican Real del Monte Mining Company, recorded the vocabularies of the indigenous peoples of southern California, and prophesied that a tiny settlement, Pueblo de Nuestra Señora Reina de Los Angeles de Porciuncula, would "rise rapidly to the rank of a considerable town." His family had alliances with the United Irishmen, and significant manuscripts in Irish, commissioned by his father, are now "treasures" in the British Library.

The comprehensive nature of this biography may deter some readers from a complete read through, especially those who will be primarily interested in his contributions to botanical science and exploration. But it will remain as a useful reference for the relatively early phase of European economic interaction, some would say exploitation, of the New World. In the context of what Alfred Crosby has aptly called "ecological imperialism," Coulter was somewhat more than a minor cog in the Old World colonial machine; in terms of his contributions to the scientific and scholarly body of knowledge of early Mexico and parts of California, as well as his own homeland, this Irishman was an important pioneer. The authors are to be praised for producing such an exhaustive, thoroughly documented, and attractively presented biography.

—Mark Merlin
Biology Program
University of Hawaii
E-mail: merlin@hawaii.edu

ARCHIVAL RESOURCES

Social Science Research Council Archives. The records of the Social Science Research Council, an independent not-for-profit organization founded in 1923, have been made available for research at the Rockefeller Archive Center in North Tarrytown, New York, which has agreed to serve as the repository for SSRC's materials. Long inaccessible to scholars, the archives of the SSRC trace the evolution of the social sciences in the United States.

The SSRC has been instrumental in advancing research and training in international, interdisciplinary social science. Its activities are carried out through a wide variety of workshops and conferences, fellowships and grants, summer training institutes, research consortia, scholarly exchanges, and publications. Between 20 and 30 SSRC-sponsored books are published yearly by scholarly presses, as well as numerous articles in the learned journals. During any given year, as many as 400 scholars have been engaged in the work of the Council; over 300 researchers receive significant financial support, and 2,000 researchers and graduate students participate in over 70 meetings annually.

For nearly 75 years, the SSRC has been a central and prestigious source of grants and fellowships to generations of graduate students and young faculty in many fields. During the 1930s and 1940s, the SSRC was the major source of support to individuals conducting research in the social sciences. The roster of international social scientists who contributed their efforts to the SSRC's work or who received intellectual or financial support, contains some of the world's leading scholars, including three Nobel Prize winners.

SSRC archives include records of its governing bodies—minutes, agenda books, and correspondence—which provide an internal history of the Council; staff-written memoranda, minutes and correspondence; committee and working group documents, including conference and workshop programs and working papers; fellowships and grants materials, project proposals, financial records, and other files.

Many of the major cultural, social, and intellectual currents of the 20th-Century are reflected in the SSRC records. Opening them for research will benefit scholars in numerous fields: historians studying the intellectual development of the social sciences in the United States, particularly in the history of concepts and methods; chroniclers of government agencies; historians of philanthropy; biographers of social scientists; and historians of specific disciplines or area studies fields.

The Rockefeller Archives Center, a division of the Rockefeller University, was created in 1974 to assemble, process, and make available for scholarly research the archival collections of members of the Rockefeller family and of various philanthropic and education institutions they have founded. The Center's 60 million pages of documents, 500,000 photographs, and 2,000 films provide unique insights into worldwide developments and issues of the 19th and 20th centuries. More than 2,000 scholars have conducted research at the Center and many of them have produced books, articles, dissertations, and films based on the Center's collections.

Scholars interested in conducting research at the Center may write, describing their projects in specific terms, to:

Director
Rockefeller Archive Center
15 Dayton Avenue
North Tarrytown, NY 10591-1598 USA

RECENT BOOKS

Adventures of a Frontier Naturalist: The Life and Times of Dr. Gideon Lincecum, edited by JERRY BRYAN LINCECUM and EDWARD HAKE PHILLIPS (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1994).

Charles Darwin: Voyaging, by JANET BROWNE (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996) US\$18.95 (paper).

Collective Works of Hijikata Hisakatsu, Vol. 3: Myths and Legends of Palau, edited by ENDO HISASHI (Tokyo: The Sasakawa Peace Foundation, 1996).

Concepts of Chinese Medicine and Traditional Healing Arts: A Historical Review, by PENG YOKE HO and PETER F. LISOWSKI (Singapore: World Scientific, 1993).

Ein Kölner Astronom am Chinesischen Hof, by JOHANN ADAM SCHALL VON BELL SJ, 1592-1666 (Köln: Diözesan- und Dombibliothek, 1992).

Encyclopaedia of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Non-Western Cultures, edited by HELAINE SELIN (Hingham, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1997), US\$420.

The Expeditions of Harald Ulrik Sverdrup: Contexts for Shaping an Ocean Science, by ROBERT MARC FRIEDMAN (San Diego, California: Scripps Institution of Oceanography, 1994).

Factories of Death: Japanese Secret Biological Warfare, 1932-45, and the American Cover-up, by SHELDON H. HARRIS (London: Routledge, 1994).

First in Their Field: Women and Australian Anthropology, edited by JULIE MARCUS (Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 1993).

From Labrador to Samoa: The Theory and Practice of Eleanor Burke Leacock, edited by CONSTANCE R. SUTTON (Arlington, VA: Association for Feminist Anthropology, American Anthropological Association, 1993).

Geschichte der Wissenschaften in Lateinamerika, edited by MARTIN GUNTAU. (Rostock: University Rostock, Fachbereich Geschichtswissenschaften, Institut für Wissenschafts- und Universitätsgeschichte, 1992).

Ghost Fleet: The Sunken Ships of Bikini Atoll, by JAMES P. DELGADO, (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1996), US\$31.95 (cloth), \$21.95 (paper).

Green Imperialism: Colonial Expansion, Tropical Island Edens, and the Origins of Environmentalism, 1600-1860, by RICHARD H. GROVE (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995).

Japan: A Cartographic Vision: European Printed Maps from the Early 16th to the 19th Century, edited by LUTZ WALTER on behalf of the German East-Asiatic Society (Munich: Prestel, 1994).

Le Mandat du Ciel: Le Rôle des Jésuites en Chine, de la Mort de François-Xavier à la Dissolution de la Compagnie de Jésus (1552-1774). Préface de Jean Delumeau, by JEAN-PIERRE DUTEUIL (Paris: Arguments, 1994).

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