

PACIFIC CIRCLE NEWSLETTER 2:10
9 May 2022

Circle News

A Note from the Circle President

The Pacific Circle was founded in 1985 at the 17th International Congress of the History of Science. The pathbreaking work of Roy MacLeod and Fritz Rehbock set its foundations. The Pacific has long been a key site for the study of science and empires; scientific voyaging; and also more recently the history of globalisation and science, medicine and technology; and Indigenous studies and knowledge. The Circle's new Council has identified some important foci: the increasing quest to find, patent and use Indigenous knowledge; the inter-twinned crises of the pandemic and the climate emergency; troubling new uses of sciences such as genetics and the status of Indigenous people in international law. The Council comes from across the world: France, Portugal, Switzerland, the USA, South Korea, China, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Canada, Australia and India. The Circle is now holding three annual online events: which include a lecture to highlight the work of a key new voice in the field and papers given by important contributors to the field, including Councillors. Our first annual lecture, which attended to legal contexts of science and technology, was given by Mary X Mitchell with the title, "Nuclear Weapons and the Unsettling of Sovereignty in the Marshall Islands, 1944-1963." There was an energetic discussion of the history of the nuclear Pacific. Our second event features Council member Ricardo Roque on "'Scientific occupation' and the Timor Anthropological Mission in the late Portuguese colonial empire." See below for further information.

We hope now to build further modes of exchange between our large membership and make the Circle welcoming for those entering the field. Details of our events are on the website.



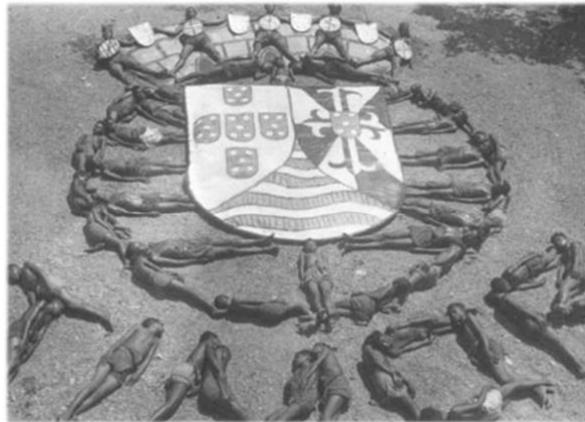
ONLINE SEMINAR (ZOOM)
THURSDAY, 26 MAY 2022 – 6AM LISBON TIME
WEDNESDAY, 25 MAY 2022 – 7PM HONOLULU TIME

**‘Scientific occupation’ and the Timor Anthropological Mission
in the late Portuguese colonial empire**

Ricardo Roque

(Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon)

Between the 1930s and 1974, several anthropological expeditions were organized by the Portuguese imperial state to the then Portuguese colonies of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, and finally East Timor – Portugal’s small remnant colony in the Asia-Pacific region. These state-sponsored expeditions aimed at collecting field data for the purposes of “colonial anthropology”, an eclectic form of racial science, also known as “anthropobiology”. They were also a political means to realize so-called “scientific occupation”, a prominent concept in Portuguese late imperial policy. This talk considers the history of the field studies and data produced by the latest of these expeditions – the ‘Timor Anthropological Mission’, launched in 1953–54 – and reflects on its enduring legacies.



Photograph from a colonial album produced by the Governor of Portuguese Timor, Álvaro Eugénio Neves da Fontoura, in the late 1930s.

Ricardo Roque is a Research Fellow at the Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon and an Honorary Associate in the Department of History, University of Sydney. Dr Roque’s research focuses on the history and ethnography of the human sciences, colonialism, race, and cross-cultural contact in the Portuguese-speaking world, from 1800 to the twentieth century. Among his publications are *Headhunting and Colonialism: Anthropology and the Circulation of Human Skulls in the Portuguese Empire* (Palgrave 2010) and the edited volumes, *Crossing Histories and Ethnographies: Following Colonial Historicities in Timor-Leste* (with E. G. Traube, Berghahn 2019) and *Luso-Tropicalism and Its Discontents: The Making and Unmaking of Racial Exceptionalism* (with W. Anderson and R. Ventura Santos, Berghahn 2019).



Please register [here](#)

Society and Commission News

The April HPS&ST Newsletter

<http://www.hpsst.com/hpsst-newsletter.html>

Contents:

- # Thomas Kuhn Centenary Celebration and Conference, 13-15 July 2022, University of Kent, UK
- # Royal Society and US Academy of Sciences *Biographical Memoirs*
- # University of Leeds, History & Philosophy of Science Online Seminar Series, Spring 2022
- # Coulomb's Main Works on Electricity and Magnetism
- # HPS&ST in Latin America
 - Announcements
 - Events
 - Publications
- # East European Network for Philosophy of Science (EENPS) 2022 Conference, 17-19 August, University of Tartu, Estonia
- # Opinion Piece: Thomas Kuhn and Science Education: A Troubled Connection
Michael R. Matthews, School of Education, University of New South Wales
- # Varia
- # PhD Award in HPS&ST
- # Recent HPS&ST Research Articles
- # Recent HPS&ST Related Books
- # Coming HPS&ST Related Conferences
 - # HPS&ST Related Organizations and Websites

Call for Applications: International Commission of the History of Oceanography Council Membership

The International Commission of the History of Oceanography (ICHO) invites applications for membership on the commission Council. ICHO is a global body devoted to linking scholars, writers, and teachers interested in the history of the marine sciences, broadly defined. We are a commission of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology IUHPST/DHST.

We seek up to four new council members, at any career stage, to join the commission leadership. As we are a global body, scholars from underrepresented groups, those who are from or who work in places outside the United States and Europe, and early career scholars, including graduate students, are especially encouraged to apply.

Council members will meet virtually approximately twice a year, participate in committee assignments, assist with membership drives, and help plan ICHO activities, including the 27th International Congress for the History of Science & Technology at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand in 2025.

Potential applicants can contact our president, Helen Rozwadowski, with questions. To apply, please submit a letter outlining your scholarly interests and experiences that prepare you for a Council position, a c.v., and the names of two colleagues (peers are fine) whom we could contact as references. Send applications (ideally as one pdf document) to helen.rozwadowski@uconn.edu. Review of applications will begin on May 15, 2022 and continue until available spaces are filled.

The Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine

QUEENSLAND

11 May The Royal Historical Society of Queensland: lecture

12.30 - Stephen Sheaffe AM, 'Lady Cilento: A Pioneer in Child and Maternal Health'
1.30 pm Lady Cilento was a pioneer female medical practitioner. She was the only female medical graduate from the University of Adelaide University in 1919, completed post graduate studies in London and a course in public health at the University of Sydney. She lived and practiced in the Malay States, New Guinea, Townsville, Brisbane and elsewhere. She was a pioneer in the fields of mothercraft and was known as medical mother. Learn more about this extraordinary woman in this talk. Commissariat Store Museum, 115 William St, Brisbane
Free entry for RHSQ members; \$10 all others.
[See website for further details.](#)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

13, 15 Torrens Island Quarantine Station: guided tour

May Once a South Australian lockdown involved a boat trip to an island in the Port
11.00 estuary...The Torrens Island Quarantine Station was built in 1879 to stop
am passengers bringing diseases such as smallpox into the colony. Today this
remarkably intact site evokes experiences of passengers placed in quarantine from
1880s – 1960s. This fascinating, curator-led tour — your only way of accessing the
site—explores the bathing blocks, boiler house, disinfection block and autoclave,
morgue and isolation hospital. [To book and further details.](#)

TASMANIA

15 Launceston Historical Society: Pugh Day Lecture

May Stefan Petrow, 'Coping With Shock Infectious Diseases: Typhoid and Cholera in
2.00 Nineteenth Century Tasmania'
pm Meeting Room, Queen Victoria Museum, Inveresk.
All welcome, LHS members free, visitors \$4. [See website for more details.](#)

19 Launceston Historical Society: Pugh Day Lecture

June Dr Michael Cooper, 'Anaesthesia and surgery in Antarctica – not a place to get
2.00 pm sick!'
Meeting Room, Queen Victoria Museum, Inveresk.
All welcome, LHS members free, visitors \$4. [See website for more details.](#)

Summer 2022 Programs

Utrecht Summer School

“Science and Values: Historical and Philosophical Perspectives”

25-29 July 2022

This summer school focuses on the role of values *in* and *of* science and their relevance in past and present scientific practice. It explores this topic by focusing on three thematic lines: (1) Science, pseudoscience, and non-science; (2) Interdisciplinarity and (3) Complexity and uncertainty. For a detailed description of the summer school, please follow this link: <https://utrechtsummerschool.nl/courses/humanities/science-and-values-historical-and-philosophical-perspectives>.

At the summer school, each thematic line will be studied in support of one international expert (see below). The school will host international Master (and early PhD students) with interest in history and philosophy of science (and related fields). For a teaser video on Utrecht summer schools, see here: <https://utrechtsummerschool.nl/>

International lecturers:

Kevin Elliot (Michigan State University)

Karoliina Pulkkinen (University of Helsinki)

Henrik Thorén (Lund University)

Tatjana Buklijas (University of Auckland)

If you have any questions, please contact jan.baedke@rub.de or a.nievesdelgado@uu.nl

“Living Relations”
Seventeenth Ischia Summer School on the History of the Life Sciences
Ischia, Italy, 26 June – 3 July 2022

This week-long summer school provides advanced training in history of the life sciences through lectures, seminars and discussions in a historically rich and naturally beautiful setting.

The theme for 2022 is “Living Relations.”

Organizers: Janet Browne (Harvard), Christiane Groeben (Naples), Nick Hopwood (Cambridge), Staffan Müller-Wille (Cambridge) and Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn (Naples)

Confirmed faculty: Jenny Bangham (QMUL), Maaïke van der Lugt (Versailles), Terence Keel (UCLA), Noémie Merleau-Ponty (CNRS), Erika Milam (Princeton), Justin E. H. Smith (Paris), Marianne Sommer (Luzern), Banu Subramaniam (Amherst), Emily Varto (Dalhousie)

Funding: Fritz Thyssen Foundation, National Science Foundation, George Loudon, History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences.

More information: <<http://ischiasummerschool.org/>

The History of Science and the 'Big Picture'

Global History and Culture Centre Annual Conference

Thursday 9th and Friday 10th June 2022

OC0.01 Oculus Building, University of Warwick

Keynote

Professor Clapperton Chakanetsa Mavhunga (MIT)

Website and Registration

<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/ghcc/event/bigpicture/>

£5 registration fee, places are limited.

Overview

The history of science lacks a sense of the 'big picture'. Nearly three decades ago, James Secord identified this problem in an influential special issue of *The British Journal for the History of Science*. At the time, the history of science was dominated by localised case studies—quantum mechanics in Weimar Germany, phrenology in 1830s Edinburgh, experimental philosophy in seventeenth-century London, and so on. These case studies, localised in time as well as space, were important for challenging the post-war consensus that modern science was universal. However, as Secord noted, this proliferation of case studies also undermined any sense of the 'big picture'—how and why science changed over the *longue durée*, and how science moved between different parts of the world. "The striking lessons of recent research need to be applied to longer time spans, a broader range of participants, and wider regional and global perspectives," argued Secord in 1993.

Despite Secord's argument, the history of science is still dominated by localised case studies. It still lacks a sense of the 'big picture', even if in recent years the field has started to move beyond its Eurocentric focus. There are now many excellent national and regional studies of the history of science in Latin America, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and the Pacific. Yet it is still not entirely clear what these individual case studies add up to. Localism, as the historian of science Peter Galison noted, has its own limits. And although some 'big picture' histories of science have been written since 1993, they are hard to reconcile with each other, and tend to be heavily skewed towards the history of ideas.

This conference, sponsored by the Global History and Culture Centre at the University of Warwick, will bring together leading international scholars to reflect on what 'big picture' histories of science might look like today. We hope that a dialogue between historians of science and the broader historical discipline will facilitate new ways of thinking beyond individual case studies.

The meeting will invite participants to reflect on what recent trends in historical scholarship, such as global history and environmental history, might offer for 'big picture' histories of science.

Speakers

Sophie Brockmann (De Montfort University)

Michael Bycroft (University of Warwick)

Pratik Chakrabarti (University of Houston)

Gianamar Giovannetti-Singh (University of Cambridge)

Aleksandra Kaye (University College London)

Clapperton Chakanetsa Mavhunga (MIT)

Jahnavi Phalkey (Science Gallery Bengaluru)

Dagmar Schäfer (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science)

James Secord (University of Cambridge)

John Tresch (Warburg Institute)

Camilo Uribe Botta (University of Warwick)

Duygu Yildirim (European University Institute)

Book Reviews

Amitav Ghosh, *The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2021, 339 pages \$US25 ISBN: 9780226815459

The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis, reaches across a vast space and chronology to explore the deep and often painful interconnections of imperialism, racism, and systematic poverty with the current environmental and climatic crisis. An extension in many ways of his previous book, *The Great Derangement* (2016) which applied a close lens on how embedded socio-cultural and psychological states and beliefs prevent us from understanding or addressing the climate crisis.

The Nutmeg's Curse also probes how some of the most fundamental tenants of our society have created a geopolitical order that is doomed to be forever unable to counter the coming Anthropogenic catastrophe.

The nineteen chapters are linked around a theme, rather than following a progressive narrative, although the first few follow a thread that unravels out of an historic event described in Chapter One. This event is the massacre of the Bandanese population of Selamon and the wider Banda Archipelago, cruelly and violently slaughtered by officials of the Dutch Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie (VOC) in 1621. The Banda Islands were at that time rich in nutmeg and mace, spices which were then worth a small fortune in European markets. Seeking to secure the monopoly on the nutmeg, the VOC sent representatives to negotiate with the Bandanese elders. When the negotiations failed to meet the VOC's expectations, they responded with violence, pursuing a campaign of elimination in which they burned down entire villages and hunted down all those who had escaped. The Bandanese elders were put on 'trial' and killed, while the remaining population were held captive and later sold as slaves. In Ghosh' own words 'within a few months ... the Bandanese, once a proud and enterprising trading community, had ceased to exist as a people' (p. 30).

Unpacking this event provokes Ghosh to muse on the systems that allowed for such an event to occur and thereafter to be obscured in historical memory. The nutmeg is placed as a symbol of the fundamental wrongs of colonialism: the pursuit of greed and power, the exploitation of the earth and its people, violence, and deep-seated racism. Extrapolating from this beginning, the next chapters explain how the tenets of colonialism deepened (or in some cases, even germinated) the geopolitical order that dominated the twentieth century and, led directly into creating and sustaining an unsustainable our modern political, economic, and social order. Sliding away from the Banda Islanders, the narrative begins to range seemingly boundlessly across topics, themes, time, and space (all definitions of) but all are in some way connected to this order and its impacts on subjugated peoples and environments. Ghosh focuses a great deal on the Americas, starting with the incursion of Europeans into Amerindian lands, refuting well known theories of Amerindian's lack of immunity to imported diseases as the reason for the 'Great Dying' of indigenous peoples across this period. Here he points instead to the structural violence and consequent social disparities and environmental stresses that were the inevitable consequence of European settlement. He then goes one step further to suggest that the 'Great Dying' theory is little more than an excuse to assuage Western guilt for past atrocities.

From Chapter Nine onwards the discussion moves more towards fossil fuels and their place within contemporary, dominant world systems. Here, Ghosh makes convincing and thoroughly disheartening arguments as to why we are not able to escape reliance on fossil fuels or to adequately tackle the climate crisis. Using the example of the US military, Ghosh shows the ultimate irony of the nation that spends more on its military than on climate change mitigation, yet its own military is threatened by rising sea-levels and that very dependence on fossil fuels. This is the same military, whose F-16 aircraft consume in one day as much fuel as a small town in one year, who are deployed to aid in natural disasters, yet their very being is one of the largest contributors to the climate change that is increasing the scale and frequency of those

same disasters (pp. 122-7). Even if, Ghosh claims, we all change our individual habits and lead more sustainable lives, we still act within this political and economic system that is fundamentally unsustainable. Our only hope is a total reimagining of the fundamental systems that underpin our world order, a massive redefinition of power, politics, and economics.

One has to wonder at this stage what the book is aiming to achieve. While it seeks to answer why we are where we are today, it offers no solutions. It leaves the reader with a sense of total helplessness in the face of a world order that is impossible to change. Perhaps I am naïve in thinking that a searing polemic of this kind ought to offer a glimmer of light but, without any hope that things can change, will such arguments persuade us to simply give up even trying? One insight might be that playing across the background of the book are the events that were unfolding during its writing. Chief of these was/is the Covid-19 Pandemic, as seen through the lens of the author, his friends and family in New York City, Kolkata and elsewhere. Written during the height of the lockdowns, Ghosh frequently connects the darkness and anxiety of living in New York at that time with the events described in his book, including the massacre of the Banda Islanders. The fear, despair and worry that Ghosh (and many, many others) experienced during the lockdowns may have exacerbated the hopelessness that comes through in the text. It is also possible however that this was – in part at least – a tool for amplifying reader empathy. Chicago University Press categorises the book under ‘Environmental Geography’, ‘Environmental History’, ‘General [Literary] Criticism and Critical Theory’ and ‘Political and Social Theory’.

One wonders why ‘Literature’ was not a listed category, as the book tumbles over personal narratives and adopts classic storytelling devices, selling atmosphere and emotion, as much as fact. A number of assumptions are made, for example, about the Banda Massacre, which aid in the telling the story but are not necessarily historically proven. Many of his examples are subjective and polemical and his narrative weaves a corybantic path over scholarly references, with generalisations and hyperbole, telling only part of a story to fit his own narrative. The references to witch-hunting (p. 37) which are not unpacked, his discussion of why conquered regions were renamed by colonists (p. 49), to a discussion of terraforming narratives within science-fiction (pp. 53-5), all of which contain truth but are cherry-picked to support his points. He also uses controversial studies as evidence, such as the recent theory that the global Little Ice Age was brought about in part by the demise of Amerindians after the European incursions of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (p. 53) or, a 1993 study that suggested that students of economics were inherently more selfish than those studying in other fields (p. 177).

I did not personally enjoy the book. My reading took me on a journey across incredible places and ideas, provoking me to think about the current climate crisis and the geopolitical order in new ways. This I found to be incredibly valuable. But I veered from ‘wow!’ to ‘what?’ so incessantly that my overall feeling was one of frustration. My training as an historian led me to pencil many angry remarks in the margins, such as ‘where is your evidence?’, ‘isn’t this just anecdotal?’ but at the same time felt in some way wrong for having these feelings toward the outpourings of such an eminent writer. One wonders however if this were Ghosh’ purpose in writing the book. It was not intended to soothe but to shock. To provoke debate, rather than

assent. Indeed, despite saying that I did not enjoy the book, I used Chapter One with my students in their class mid-term assignment and, am considering using Chapters Four to Five as a counterpoint in a lesson on Alfred W. Crosby's *Ecological Imperialism*.

Knowing I had to write this review, I deliberately stayed away from searching online reviews so as not to bias or colour my own musings. Now I reach the end however, a tentative look at online reviews assures me that I am not the only one who neither liked, nor agreed, with many aspects of *The Nutmeg's Curse*. Nevertheless, as with so much else of Ghosh' work, his brutal honesty and ability to pierce clearly through the labyrinthine veneers of modern society play a valuable part in educating people as to why, and how, the climate crisis does not have a simple solution.

Fiona Williamson
Singapore Management University.

Bibliography of Selected Recent Publications

Articles

"When De-extinction Really Happens: The Revival of the Floreana Giant Tortoises in the Galapagos Archipelago," by **Elizabeth Hennessy** and **James P. Gibbs**, *Environmental History* 27:2 (April 2022), 334-339.

"Science and Really Existing Socialism in Maoist China: A Review of Recent Works," by **Mary Augusta**, *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences* 52:2 (April 2022).

"Let's catch octopus for dinner: ancient inventions of octopus lures in the Mariana Islands of the remote tropical pacific," by **Mike T. Carson** and **Hsiao-chun Hung**, *World Archaeology* 53:4, 599-614, in the special issue "Inhabiting Tropical Worlds"

"Reaching OutHow the Pandemic Impacted Knowledge Production and Dissemination in India," **Saurav Kumar Rai**, *Technology and Culture* 63:2 (April 2022), 471-476.

ABSTRACT

The unprecedented spread of the COVID-19 pandemic compelled academic institutions and public repositories worldwide to come up with novel ideas in order to keep themselves functional. Adoption of new technology often constituted the fulcrum of such institutional responses. This article delves into some of the measures adopted by the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, one of India's premier research institutes in social sciences. While doing so, it delineates a few anecdotal references from the past as well. The article emphasizes that the technological shifts in the wake of COVID-19 have far-reaching consequences so far as dissemination of knowledge through seminars and access to primary sources are concerned.

“From the Frying Pan into the Fire? Climate Change, Urbanization and (In)Security in Pacific Island Countries and Territories,” by **John R. Campbell**, *Peace Review*

- <https://doi.org/10.1080/10402659.2022.2023425>

Abstract

Most Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) have experienced urban population growth for some time although the rates vary across the region. The drivers have traditionally been economic and social although the role of environmental degradation has been largely overlooked. As the populations of towns and cities have grown in PICTs, urban population densities have increased and available land for expansion has been restricted. Accordingly, many urban migrants live in informal peri urban settlements with little or no land security and limited government services such as sanitation, water supply and electricity. Employment is difficult to find and there are significant amounts of poverty. In this context there are high levels of individual and human insecurity and crimes including violence are often attributed to these problems. In some countries land related violence in urban areas has escalated into major conflicts. More recently climate change has been seen as an additional driver of urbanization and its role is expected to increase, although separating the social, economic and climate change causes is extremely difficult if not impossible. Already some communities have been relocated in several countries and some individual or family migration has been attributed to deteriorating human (land, livelihood, and habitat) security caused by climate change in rural areas. Because in most PICTs there are few alternatives, urban areas are likely to be the destinations for many climate change migrants and urbanization rates can be expected to further increase. Moreover, as options for settlement in peri urban areas lessen and numbers grow, more migrants are likely to find themselves occupying densely populated and increasingly environmentally marginal areas (such as steep and unstable slopes, river flood plains and low-lying coastal areas) that may be as exposed as their original homes. At the same time many of the migrants may be facing increasing social and economic insecurity related to urban living.

Books



Before Mauna Kea

Astronomy in Hawaii, Ancient to Modern Times

Michael Chauvin

Chapter Titles

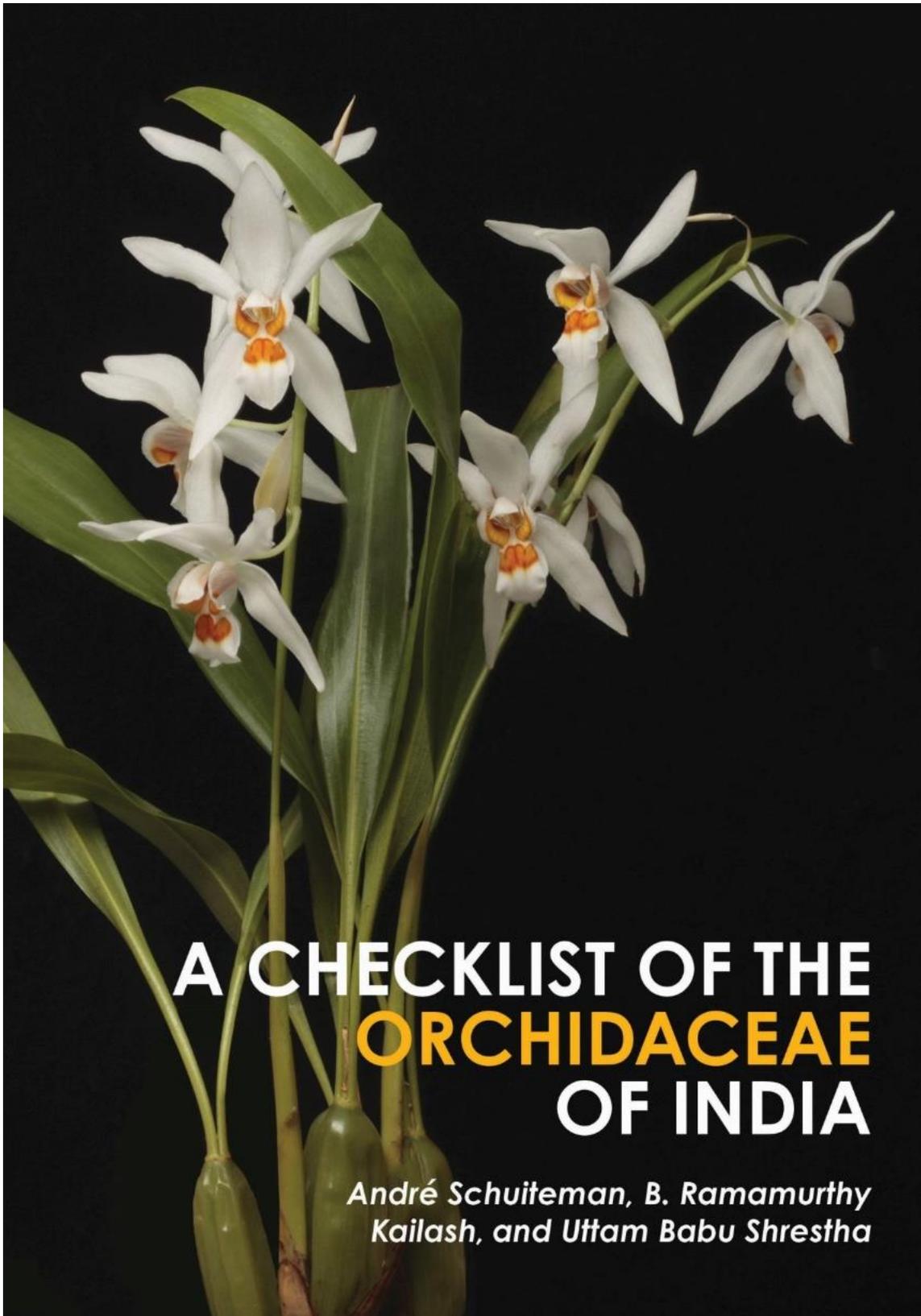
1. Astronomy in Ancient Hawaii
2. Finding the Longitude: Hawaii's First Astronomical Observatory
3. Astronomy and Destiny: The Murder of William Gooch
4. Longitude in a Lifeboat: 43 Days to Laupahoe
5. Astronomy by the Book: The Missionaries and their Message
6. Denison Olmsted: *The Rudiments of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy*
7. Astronomers for Hire: The Amateur, the Professional, and the Professor
8. A Transit of Venus and a Transient Romance
9. A Transit of Venus and a Trace of Wit
10. Telescopes, Martians, and the Man in the Moon
11. Once Upon a Time: From Sabbath Bell to Sidereal Clock
12. Astronomy for a King: His Majesty and His Legacy
13. Astronomy for a Queen: Looking for Latitude at Waikiki
14. Astronomy for an Explorer: From Molokai to Machu Picchu
15. Astronomy for Everyone: *Palapala* at the Hawaii State Library
16. Falling Stars: The Honolulu and Palolo Valley Meteorites
17. Rising Stars: The Bishop Museum Planetarium and Observatory
18. New Stars: From Astrophysics to Astrobiology
19. Stars and Stripes: New Weapons for Old Glory



Michael Chauvin, *Before Mauna Kea: Astronomy in Hawaii, Ancient to Modern Times*. 578 pp. including more than 250 illustrations, extensive endnotes, and a full bibliography. POD, pb., \$50.00. Hawaiian Skies, P. O. Box 10272, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816.

About the author: Educated at the universities of Michigan, Hawaii, Harvard, and Cambridge, Michael Chauvin has taught astronomy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo, been a Lecturer at the Bishop Museum Planetarium in Honolulu, a Resident Scholar at the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC., and the recipient, through the American Astronomical Society, of two NASA-funded research awards. He is a founding member of the Inter-Union Commission for the History of Astronomy – an international body formed in 2001 by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the Division of History of Science of the International Union for History and Philosophy of Science (DHS/IUHPS) to represent the interests of professional historians of astronomy worldwide.

Dr. Chauvin is the author of the critically-acclaimed *Hokuloa: The British 1874 Transit of Venus Expedition to Hawaii* (2004).



**A CHECKLIST OF THE
ORCHIDACEAE
OF INDIA**

*André Schuiteman, B. Ramamurthy
Kailash, and Uttam Babu Shrestha*

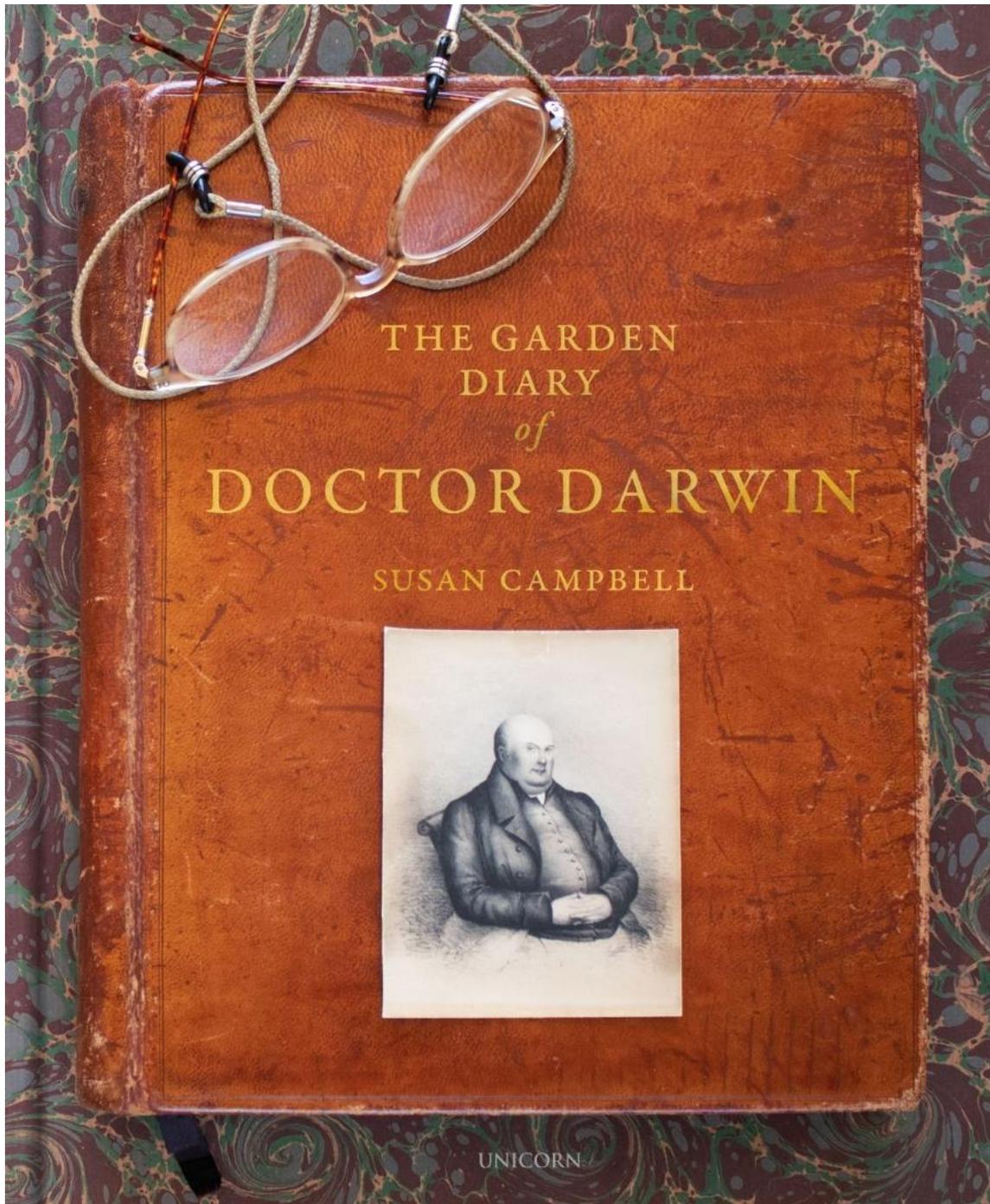
Published April 2022

A Checklist of the Orchidaceae of India

André Schuiteman, B. R. Kailash, Uttam Babu Shrestha

An in-depth look at India's 1,200 species of orchids.

The Indian subcontinent—rightfully renowned for its ecological lushness—is home to more than 1,200 species of orchids, about a quarter of which can be found nowhere else on the planet. Fortunately, the Missouri Botanical Garden Press's new book enumerates and carefully classifies each one, following the latest insights from molecular phylogenetic studies. *A Checklist of the Orchidaceae of India* features typification, synonymy, distribution, habit, and conservation, as well as a key to the identification of orchid genera. The book is part of the Checklist of Indian Plants, a major collaborative project spearheaded by Peter H. Raven of the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, and the Harvard University Herbaria.



The Garden Diary of Doctor Darwin

[Susan Campbell](#)

An unpublished diary sheds new light on Charles Darwin's early life and the garden where he grew up.

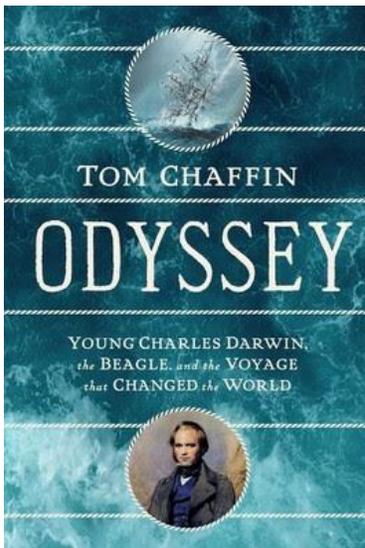
In 1986, Susan Campbell made the chance discovery of a hitherto unknown garden diary and spent the next thirty-five years researching its contents. Written between 1838 and 1865 by Robert Darwin, the father of Charles Darwin, the diary showcases the original source of Charles

Darwin's interest in natural history. After Robert Darwin's death in 1848, the diary was continued by Charles's sister, Susan. In lavish detail, it describes the horticultural and domestic activities at the Mount, a large house on the banks of the River Severn in Shrewsbury that was the home of the Darwin family from 1800 until Susan's death in 1866.

The diary describes the plants that grew in the garden—whether ornamental and exotic, utilitarian or edible—as well as the keeping of cows and pigs, the exchanges of plants with neighbors and family, and occasional events of local importance. Moreover, it reveals that Dr. Darwin made his garden available for several of Charles's horticultural experiments in 1838, shining new light on the revolutionary biologist's early years.

Conferences, Meetings, Workshops, and Lectures

American Philosophical Society



Odyssey: Young Charles Darwin, the Beagle, and the Voyage that Changed the World

Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 1:00 p.m. EDT
Virtual Event

Charles Darwin's famed journey on the *Beagle* took the 22-year-old naturalist around the globe where he explored remote mountains, pampas, rainforests, and deserts. He also spent significant time in cities including Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Sydney, and Cape Town. Join us for a virtual discussion of this critical episode in Darwin's life and scientific work.

[Register to attend.](#)

International Workshop on “Oceans Disconnect”

On 21 and 22 November 2022, *global dis:connect* will host the international workshop *Oceans Disconnect*. The workshop is organised by David Armitage (Harvard), Sujit Sivasundaram (Cambridge) and Roland Wenzlhuemer (Munich). The Call for Papers is now open and can be found in our [calls section](#) or directly [here](#). Submission deadline is 15 May 2022.

Over the past three decades, the rapidly expanding historical literature on oceans and seas has traditionally been framed around the geographical units of the world’s water bodies; it has been directed towards tracking long-distance connections, so as to problematise the political and specialist organisation of historical knowledge around “nation”, “area” and “civilisation.” Yet the promise of the first, boosterish, phase of oceanic history has lately ebbed. Globalisation now looks more reversible and halting. And transnational historians more generally are examining disconnection rather than connection as a dynamic in world history.

Along these lines, new work in oceanic history is insisting on particularity, friction, interruption, materiality and resistance. There is growing attention to the critical foundations of connection, where people, things, ideas, legal systems, could demonstrate instability, violence, and invisibility at the very nodes of globalisation. And historians are increasingly focusing on the choke-points within the world’s oceans: straits and narrows, gulfs and bays; pirates’ nests and contested waters; natural disaster and commercial risk; closed seas and maritime limits, among other topics. This workshop will interrogate the underside of connection and the dynamics of disconnection in oceanic history.

School of Philosophy, Religion & History of Science, University of Leeds, History & Philosophy of Science Online Seminar Series, Spring 2022

Wednesdays 3.15-5pm GMT (except on May 11th)

Seminar schedule:

May 11 Chris Lean (Sydney), “The future role of synthetic biology in conservation,” NB at 11 am GMT

Join us on Zoom for these seminars, link
here<<https://universityofleeds.zoom.us/j/84087730264>>

For further information, please contact the Director of the Leeds HPS Centre, Dr Ellen Clarke: e.clarke@leeds.ac.uk<<mailto:e.clarke@leeds.ac.uk>>

The Centre for Research on Pandemics & Society (PANSOC) Oslo Metropolitan University Spring 2022 Zoom Seminar Schedule

The series showcases research on the social, political, and economic aspects of historical pandemics and COVID-19.

Meetings take place on Thursday from 1600–1700 CET (10 AM EST), except as noted.

Zoom link

<https://oslomet.zoom.us/j/66540138893?pwd=OEtqc2pVZ3FKOFFHeGhzTFliZDE0dz09>

Recordings of past seminars are available at uni.oslomet.no/pansoc/category/webinars/.

12 May

Carolyn Orbann, University of Missouri

Co-circulating respiratory diseases at the end of the 1918 influenza pandemic

Centre for Research on Pandemics & Society (PANSOC)

Oslo Metropolitan University

www.oslomet.no/en/pansoc

Laureate Seminar: Population Modern History, University of New South Wales

Hosted by the Laureate Centre for History and Population at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, this seminar covers new and forthcoming research on the history and legacies of global population policy.

A full copy of the schedule is available at:

<https://historyandpopulation.com/seminar/>

Registration for a Zoom link is available at:

<https://forms.gle/m62AxbztZHSQuS2L6>

FELLOWSHIPS, POST-DOCS, GRANTS, and PRIZES

The British Society for the History of Science's Outreach and Engagement Committee

BSHS offers grants of up to £500 to support engagement and outreach projects in the history of science, technology and medicine. Project grants are awarded three times per year, and the deadline for the next round is Friday 13 May 2022.

Project grants are intended to support initiatives that encourage engagement with the history of science, technology and medicine by non-academic audiences. For example, eligible projects might include supporting the costs of holding a public event, the creation of a public display, or the translation of research into educational resources. We particularly encourage projects that use innovative formats and reach audiences that might be new to the history of science, technology and medicine.

Further information, and a downloadable application form, can be found at: <https://www.bsbs.org.uk/grants/outreach-and-engagement-project-grants>

BSHS Small Conference & Workshop Grants

The British Society for the History of Science is looking to award grants of £300 each to conferences and workshops to be held in person this year (funds to be spent by 31 December 2022). Monies can be used for any reasonable purpose to support running a conference, which might include catering, venue, or accessibility costs. **Please note that the society is committed to lowering its climate impact and therefore will not fund air travel.**

Applications should consist of:

1. Details of the conference including title, location, and dates of the event.
2. A short abstract detailing the intellectual agenda of the conference.
3. Details of the main organisers (including name, affiliation, and contact details).
4. Details of the conference programme where available.
5. A budget that shows both projected income and expenditure*.
6. A statement explaining how the event will adhere to aims and objectives of the BSHS and our policies and guidelines (which can be found here: <https://www.bsbs.org.uk/about-society>). We would draw particular attention to our Equality and Diversity Statement and our Climate Policy.

**Budgets that do not balance (showing income and expenditure) may be reviewed unfavourably by the panel.*

Applications should be no longer than 2 pages and should be in .docx or .pdf format. All awardees will be required to provide the BSHS with a post-event report and a suitable image for publication in the society's *Viewpoint* newsletter within three months of the event.

Please submit application materials by midnight on Friday 13th May 2022. Applicants will be notified by the 31st May 2022 and monies can be used between then and the 31st December 2022. Applications and any questions should be addressed to the Secretary to the BSHS Conferences Committee, Grace Exley, at prgae@leeds.ac.uk.

History of Science, Medicine and Technology Fellowship Maison Française d'Oxford, 2023

Une bourse d'études est offerte chaque année pendant le Trinity Term (8 semaines du 25 avril au 19 juin, avec une possibilité d'extension à trois mois complets) à la Maison Française d'Oxford dans le domaine de l'histoire des sciences, des techniques et de la médecine. Les candidatures pour le printemps 2023 (un projet de recherche - maximum 1000 mots - et un CV, en français et en anglais) sont à envoyer avant le 15 juin 2022 à l'intention du Comité d'histoire des sciences de la Maison française d'Oxford (secretary@mfo.ac.uk). Nous encourageons les enseignant.e.s-chercheur.se.s et chercheur.se.s titulaires d'un poste permanent en France à postuler (maîtres.se.s de conférences, professeur.e.s, chargé.e.s et directrices ou directeurs de recherches). Le candidat devra démontrer la pertinence de sa présence à Oxford pour les recherches à mener (ressources universitaires, projets de collaboration, etc.).

[Le.la](#) chercheur.e invité.e participera au programme de recherche de la Maison Française en collaboration avec le « Oxford Centre for the History of Science, Medicine and Technology » et les universitaires des universités d'Oxford et d'Oxford Brookes. Pendant son séjour, il est prévu qu'il/elle donne un séminaire au Centre et une conférence publique à la Maison Française. Dans un délai de six mois, il lui sera également demandé de fournir une production écrite résultat des recherches menées pendant son séjour (un trimestre) ou de publier un article lié à ces recherches, qui sera inclus dans la base de données en libre accès du CNRS (HAL).

[Le.la](#) chercheur.e invité.e disposera d'un logement gratuit à la Maison française d'Oxford, d'un poste de travail ainsi que de l'accès aux bibliothèques d'Oxford et d'une affiliation temporaire à Wolfson College. Le trajet (un aller-retour) sera également pris en charge dans le cadre de ce programme.

Notre objectif est de promouvoir les femmes dans la recherche et les sciences. Les candidatures sont particulièrement bienvenues de la part de femmes et de candidats issus de minorités ethniques, qui sont sous-représentés dans les postes universitaires.

Pour tout renseignement complémentaire, veuillez contacter Judith Rainhorn : judith.rainhorn@history.ox.ac.uk

A Visiting Fellowship is offered each year in Trinity Term (8 weeks from 25th April to 19th June with a possible extension to the full three months) at the Maison Française in the History of Science, Technology and Medicine.

Applications for 2023 (a research proposal – maximum 1000 words – with a CV in French and English) should be sent before 15th June 2022 to the History of Science Committee for the Maison Française d'Oxford (secretary@mfo.ac.uk). We encourage all senior academics who hold a permanent position in France to apply (Assistant Professor, Professor, Tenured Researcher). The candidate will have to demonstrate the relevance of their presence in Oxford to the research to be carried out (university resources, collaborative projects, etc.).

The Visiting Fellow will take part in the research programme of the Maison Française in collaboration with the Oxford Centre for the History of Science, Medicine and Technology, academics from the University of Oxford and Oxford Brookes University. During their stay, they are expected to give a seminar at the Centre and a public lecture at the Maison Française. Within six months, they will also be asked to make a substantial research production or deliver a position paper resulting from the research carried out during their stay, which will be included in the open-access database of the CNRS, namely HAL. The Visiting Fellow will have free accommodation at the Maison Française, office space and access to Oxford libraries as well as affiliation to Wolfson College. The travel cost will be paid (one return ticket).

We aim at promoting women in Research and Science. Applications are particularly welcome from women and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts.

For any further information, please contact judith.rainhorn@history.ox.ac.uk.

Society for the History of Natural History William T. Stearn Essay Prize 2022

The Society for the History of Natural History's William T. Stearn Essay Prize is now welcoming submissions. The Prize is awarded to the best original, unpublished essay in the field of the history of natural history. The competition is open to undergraduates and postgraduate students in full or part-time education as well as those within two years of completion.

The prize will be awarded to the essay which contributes most significantly to the history of natural history, including its social and cultural aspects. Prize winners are chosen by a panel of three judges (all members of the Society).

All entries must be received by the Secretary by 31 July 2022.

Essays should not have been previously published, and must not be under consideration at another journal.

Guidelines for submission and the application form can be found on our website <https://shnh.org.uk/awards-honours-medals/william-t-stearn-student-essay-prize/>

Pacific Islands Scholars Awards (PISA)

The Pacific Islands Scholars Award supports attendance and participation by Pacific Islands scholars at ASAO meetings through travel awards and waivers of some fees. ASAO is particularly interested in supporting younger scholars and those who have not previously attended ASAO meetings but encourages all prospective Pacific Islands participants to read the application materials.