

2023 American Institute of Physics Early-Career Conference for Historians of the Physical Sciences

PROGRAM



International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology
IUHPST/DHST
Division of History of Science and Technology

Niels Bohr
NIELS BOHR ARCHIVE



Program

The conference is hosted by the [Niels Bohr Archive](#) and will be held at the Niels Bohr Institute (NBI) at Blegdamsvej 17, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark.

The venue is NBI's historic institute building (building C). Talks take place in Auditorium A on the first floor (room 02-0-Ca3). Coffee breaks are held in Auditorium C (room 02-0-Ca10), located right across the hall.

The nearest metro station is "Trianglen". Bus 1A has two stops in the immediate vicinity of the venue: "Irmingersgade" and "Rigshospitalet Hovedindgang". Public parking is available at Blegdamsvej. A taxi stand can be found in front of the main entrance to Rigshospitalet at Blegdamsvej. Please note that the historic building, unfortunately, is not barrier-free. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the organizers in advance in case you require assistance.

The talks will be divided into panels of 3 presentations of 15 minutes + 5 minutes for questions and comments after each presentation. The panels will be closed with commentary from senior scholars. Please share the text or draft of your presentation with the commentators of your panel by August 16 so that they can prepare in advance for the comments.

Please note: During the conference, we might take some photos. These images may be used in our communication channels, including the [AIP History Newsletter](#). If you do not wish to be photographed, please contact us in advance.

Thursday August 31

1pm – Walk from the Hotel to the Niels Bohr Archive

1.30-2 pm - Registration

2-2.20 pm - Welcome

2.20-3.50 pm - Session 1: Science Education. Diplomacy by Other Means

Commentator: **Simone Turchetti**

Chair: **Joanna Behrman**

- ❖ **Christina Roberts:** Spacemobile Goes Abroad. NASA's Cold War Science Education Diplomacy, 1962-1969
- ❖ **Duim Huh:** Ambivalent Connection between Scientific Thinking and Civic Responsibility. The Appropriations of Deweyan Science Education in Japan, 1920s–1950s
- ❖ **Loukas Freris:** Small Devices and Design Advices. The Introduction of Radiation Protection Rules in Postwar Greece

3:50-4.10 pm Break

4.10-5.40 pm - Session 2: Gender, Race, Class, and the Physical Sciences

Commentator: **Karin Tybjerg**

Chair: **Joanna Behrman**

- ❖ **Elizabeth Coquillette:** Beyond the Stars. Examining Personal, Generational, and Social Impacts on the Careers of the Harvard Women Astronomical Computers (1875-1950)
- ❖ **Michelle Frank:** Tangling with Entanglement History. Early Quantum Contributions of Chien-Shiung Wu
- ❖ **Nithyanand Rao:** Invisible Labor and the “Ghost Particle”

6.15 pm - Keynote (Lyne Starling History of Science Trimble Lecture): Simone Turchetti

- ❖ **Simone Turchetti:** "Decolonize the IGY! Tales about Past Episodes of Scientific Collaboration and the Importance of Challenging them in the Future."
- ❖ Turchetti is a Senior Lecturer at the Centre for the History of Science Technology and Medicine of the University of Manchester
- ❖ **Chair: Rebecca Charbonneau**
- ❖ The lecture will also be [live-streamed via Zoom Webinar](#).

Afterwards: Informal Dinner

Friday September 1

9-10.30 am - Session 3: Motivation and Interpretation

Commentator: Richard Staley

Chair: Rebecca Charbonneau

- ❖ **Annelie Drakman:** The Phun of Physics. The Emergence of Subjective Enjoyment as a Means of Motivating Scientific Pursuits after World War II
- ❖ **Miguel Ohnesorge:** Recovering a Lost Arc in the History Statistical Inference. Geodetic Statistics from Laplace to Peirce
- ❖ **Lewis Bremner:** Interpreting the World. Physics, Astronomy, and Translation in Tokugawa Japan

10.30-11am - Break

11-12.30 pm - Session 4: International Exchange

Commentator: Christian Joas

Chair: Clímério Silva Neto

- ❖ **Masahiro Inohana:** Ryokichi Sagane's Actions and Ideas on Introduction of Foreign Nuclear Reactors to Japan
- ❖ **Hiroto Kono:** Shōji Nishikawa's Research and Education in Crystallography
- ❖ **Jinyan Liu:** Chinese Scientists in Dubna (1956-1965)

12.30-2 pm - Lunch

2-3.30 pm - Archive guided tour

- ❖ 30 minutes, everyone, Auditorium A:
Christian Joas, An introduction into the collections of the Niels Bohr Archive
- ❖ 60 minutes, in two or more groups, Rob Sunderland and Christian Joas: historical tours at the Niels Bohr Institute (including Niels Bohr's historic office)

3.30-4 pm - Break

4-5.30 pm - Session 5: Physics in Weimar Culture

Commentator: Christoph Lehner

Chair: Magnus Bøe

- ❖ **Elena Schaa:** A Romantic Genius? Science and Religion in Werner Heisenberg's Popular Communication

- ❖ **Thijs Latten:** On the Role of Advaita Vedānta in Erwin Schrödinger's Work
- ❖ **Sofia Guilhem Basilio:** Intellectual Environment and the Development of Quantum Theory. An Analysis of Erwin Schrödinger's Work

6-7 pm - IUPAP early career prize AWARD

- ❖ Award by the president of the Inter-Union Commission for the History and Philosophy of Physics (IUCHPP) Jaume Navarro
- ❖ **Jean-Philippe Martinez:** Complexity in the history of science.

Saturday September 2

9-10.30 am - Session 6: Instruments and Methods

Commentator: Jaume Navarro

Chair: Climério Silva Neto

- ❖ **Enes Tepe:** Cross-cultural Analysis of Timekeeping Instruments. Two examples of Mizzī & Sutton
- ❖ **Jack Klempay:** Matters of Record. Film, Paper, and the "Bureaucratic Media" of Radiation Protection at Nuclear Test Sites
- ❖ **E.L. Meszaros:** Algorithmic Relationships in Babylonian Astronomical Procedure Texts

10.30-11 am – Break

11-12.30 am - Session 7: Ways of Seeing

Commentator: Hanne Andersen

Chair: Julia Bloemer

- ❖ **Sebastian Fernandez-Mulligan:** How Astronomers Learned to See Gravitational Lenses, 1960-1990
- ❖ **Michelle Mercier:** How to see and how to communicate what has been seen? The Case of Thomas Young's Double-slit Experiment (1807)
- ❖ **Amelia Urry:** Feeling into Ice, Seeing through Time. Radar Sounding and the Archaeology of Data

12.30-2 pm – Lunch

2-3.30 pm - Session 8: Politics of Physics After World War II

Commentator: Kristine Harper

Chair: Julia Bloemer

- ❖ **Barbara Hof and Gerardo Ienna:** Physicists “on Trial”. The Accusations of European Radicals in the Context of the US Military Operation in Vietnam
- ❖ **Michiel Bron:** Radioactive Knowledge. The Role of Oil Geologists and Geophysicists in the Development of the Nuclear Industry
- ❖ **Madison Renner:** Crafting a History for Climate Science. How the Keeling Curve became a Discovery

3.30-3.45 pm – Break

3.45-5.45 pm - Career training

Chair: Christian Joas (NBA Copenhagen)

- ❖ **Ryan Dahn:** Books Editor at *Physics Today*.
- ❖ **Robert Naylor,** Assistant Editor at *Physics in Perspective*.
- ❖ **Joanna Behrman:** Assistant Public Historian at the Center for History of Physics (CHP) of the American Institute of Physics.

7 pm - Conference dinner at Tivoli

Sunday September 3

9-10.30 am - Session 9: Seeking the (Un)seen

Commentators: Helge Kragh & Anja Skaar Jacobsen

Chair: Magnus Bøe

- ❖ **Valentina Roberti:** The Helmholtz Legacy in Color Theory. An Account of Schrödinger’s Research on Color
- ❖ **Urko Gorriñobeaskoa:** The Semantic Layers of Ether
- ❖ **Jean-Philippe Martinez:** The Strange Concept that almost Nobody Seemed to be Concerned about. Virtual Particles in the Early Post-war Period

10.30-11am – Break

11.00-12 pm - Final Discussion

Chair: Joanna Behrman

Farewell. Have a safe journey home!