2023- Report on the activities of the DLMPST commission on the Philosophy of Technology and Engineering Sciences (CoPhiTES)

Report on activities realized

The commission maintains the website (cophites.org), including updates in its statement, board, officers, and logo.

The commission has created an extensive database of scholars potentially interested in the activities of the commission. These scholars will be contacted to be members of CoPhiTES and to postulate themselves for different officer roles in the commission. Likewise, the broader community will be informed by means of the usual mailing lists (Mersenne, Philos-L, PhilEvents, etc.)

The commission has set up a permanent email address for contacting: contact@cophites.org
There has been agreement on the future composition of the commission, to be presented in the CLMPST 2023 in Buenos Aires. The first CoPhiTES council 2023 – 2027 will consist of the following:

- President: Juan M. Durán
- Vice-President: Sjoerd Zwart
- Treasurer: Giorgia Pozzi

Bylaws:

In 2022, the commission finalized its bylaws, which were discussed with the Secretary General of the DLMPST/IUHPST. These bylaws were presented in the CLMPST 2023 in Buenos Aires. The bylaws have been approved and determine and state the identity of the commission, its composition, and regulate its activities. They also install the governance structure. Finally, the bylaws also determine the financial structure of the commission, allocating a stable stream of budget for, e.g., the website, student awards, and conferences.

CLMPST 2023 – Buenos Aires:

The commission organized at two symposia at the past CLMPST 2023 in Buenos Aires. The symposia are:

- Symposium “Technology and values in an uncertain world.”
- Symposium “Philosophy of science for machine learning.”

Symposia offered financial support to students in the form of a Best Paper Student Award. Unfortunately, no student applied for this support.

Plans

Contact with other Organizations:

The commission still wants to strengthen its relations with the fPET, the SPT, the IAS University van Amsterdam, and other bodies. In 2019, connections were established with Diane P. Michelfelder of the first and Pieter Vermaas of the second organization.

CoPhiTES workshop:

The commission plans to support regular biennial workshops, preferably two years after the CLMPST general conference. The event will take place at diverse venues and will be hosted by CoPhiTES members. Topics, guest talks, and submissions must be within the commission’s scope. The commission will assist financially, but more funding will need to be secured by the hosting institution.
The first CoPhiTES conference is planned to take place at the University of Mexico in 2024-2025. There is also the possibility to combine the CoPhiTES workshops with those of other commissions, such as HaPOC.

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