

The DHST/DLMPST Joint Commission Annual Report of Activities, 2023

(prepared by Agnes Bolinska, 30 November 2023)

The current and future structure of the Joint Commission

Members of the Board (called the “governing committee” in previous reports) of the Joint Commission are elected by agreement of both Divisions of the IUHPST. The Chair is nominated by the Divisions in an alternating pattern, for 2-year terms (renewable).

The Commission’s Chair is Agnes Bolinska (University of South Carolina, USA). The President and Secretary-General of each Division are *ex officio* members of the Board: currently, Marcos Cueto (DHST), Liesbeth De Mol (DHST), Nancy Cartwright (DLMPST), and Benedikt Loewe (DLMPST). As of 2024, Valentin Goranko and Eleonora Cresto will replace Nancy Cartwright and Benedikt Loewe as incoming President and Secretary General of the DLMPST. In addition, since February 2020, we have the following additional members serving on the Board: Rachel Ankeny (University of Adelaide, Australia), Theodore Arabatzis (University of Athens, Greece), Takehiko Hashimoto (University of Tokyo, Japan), Helen Longino (Stanford University, USA), Pablo Lorenzano (Universidad Nacional de Quilmes, Argentina), Joe Martin (Durham University, UK), and Dirk Schlimm (McGill University, Canada). Marlis Hinckley (Johns Hopkins University, USA) joined the board in 2022, as did Hasok Chang (Cambridge University, UK) after stepping down from his role as Chair.

We do not have regular business meetings, but we are in communication by e-mail as needed.

Activities in 2023

The main activity of the Joint Commission has traditionally been to organize symposia at the ICHST and CLMPST. We organized three symposia at the CLMPST in Buenos Aires in 2023:

1) The History and Philosophy of Structural Biology

Organizer: Agnes Bolinska (South Carolina, USA)

Speakers: Agnes Bolinska (South Carolina, USA), Dana Matthiessen (Pittsburgh, USA), Jacob Neal (University of Western Ontario, Canada)

2) Hasok Chang's *Realism for Realistic People*

Organizer: Jamie Shaw (Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany)

Speakers: Bruno Borge (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina), Matthew J. Brown (Southern Illinois University, USA), Milx Bria-Massaró, (University of Texas at Dallas), Dubian Cañas (National Autonomous University of Mexico)

3) Special session featuring the winner of the 2023 IUHPST Essay Prize in History and Philosophy of Science, Ahmad Elabbar (Cambridge University, UK)

We also ran the fourth installment of the IUHPST Essay Prize. The winner of the prize was Ahmad Elabbar (Cambridge), for his essay "The curatorial view of assessment and the ethics of scientific advice: Beyond decisional autonomy towards distributive epistemic justice". We recognized as runner-up Karoliina Pulkkinen (Helsinki) for her essay "Beyond democratic legitimacy of value-judgments in science: a closer look at science in the early Soviet Union".

The judging panel consisted of the following members: Agnes Bolinska, Marlis Hinckley, Joe Martin, and Helen Longino. The full announcement was posted on the DHST website: <http://iuhpst.org/pages/inter-division-commissions/joint-commission/2023-essay-prize.php>