

The DHST/DLMPST Joint Commission Annual Report of Activities, 2021

(prepared by Hasok Chang, 28 December 2021)

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 has been Hasok Chang (University of Cambridge, UK) since 2016, re-appointed twice to continue until the end of 2021. Agnes Bolinska (University of South Carolina, USA), nominated by the DLMPST according to the agreed rota, will be the new Chair from 2022.

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). 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). Hasok Chang has also agreed to remain on the Board as an ordinary member.

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

Activities in 2021

The main activity of the Joint Commission has traditionally been to organize symposia at the ICHST and CLMPST. At the 26th ICHST in Prague (online) in July 2021 we organized the following four symposia, amounting to a whole day of activity.

(1) Thinking Across Scales: An Integrated Approach to Histories of Materials
Organizers: Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent (Paris X, France), Arne Hessenbruch (MIT, USA)

Speakers: Arne Hessenbruch (MIT, USA), Robert Crease (Stony Brook, USA), Ellan Spero (MIT, USA), Joseph Martin (Durham, UK)

(2) The Perils of Prediction

Organizers: Theodore Arabatzis (Athens, Greece), Ana Simões (Lisboa, Portugal)

Speakers: Hasok Chang (Cambridge, UK), Johannes Lenhard (Kaiserslautern, Germany), Miles MacLeod (Twente, The Netherlands), Ana Simões (Lisboa, Portugal)

(3) Size Matters: Exploring the Textual Dimensions of Scientific Knowledge in Britain

Organizers: Alex Aylward (Leeds, UK), Agnes Bolinska (South Carolina, USA)

Speakers: Alex Aylward (Leeds, UK), Sally Frampton (Oxford, UK)

(4) Special session featuring the winner of the 2021 IUHPST Essay Prize in History and Philosophy of Science, Marlis Hinckley (Johns Hopkins University, USA)

In 2021 the Joint Commission administered the contest for the third IUHPST Essay Prize in History and Philosophy of Science, following two previous runs in 2017 and 2019. The purpose of this prize scheme is to encourage fresh methodological thinking on the history and philosophy of science as an integrated discipline. Marlis Hinckley, PhD candidate at Johns Hopkins University, USA, was the winner. As mentioned above, she presented her prize-winning essay at a special symposium at the 26th ICHST in Prague. The full announcement of this year's award can be found on the Joint Commission's website:

<http://iuhpst.org/pages/inter-division-commissions/joint-commission/2021-essay-prize.php>