

October 30-31, 2014

The Making of Useful Knowledge

In the past few decades, the scholarly discussion on useful knowledge has gained momentum. This theme straddles the disciplinary boundaries between the history of science and technology, and economic history, offering the opportunity to investigate the trading zones where political and economic issues, and knowledge about the natural world and its manipulability meet and mingle.

Workshop Speakers

Simona Valeriani, Objects and Spaces for the Production of Useful Knowledge in Early Modern Europe

Ursula Klein, The Useful Sciences in Prussia around 1800

Cesare Pastorino, Reporting Useful Experiments: Cost Accounting and Early Modern Technical Experimentation

Jonathan Harwood, Useful Knowledge but for Whom? The Development of Appropriate Agricultural Technology in Southern Germany, 1890-1920

Thomas Morel, Usefulness and Practicability of Mathematics: the German Mining Academies in the 18th Century

Karel Davids, Making 'Useful' Knowledge in the 18th Century: A Maritime Perspective

Gerhard Rammer, Practical Mathematics and the Waterwheels in the 18th Century

Stephen Johnston, Utility, Commerce, Pleasure: London Scientific Instrument Workshops as Sites of Public Knowledge, 1550-1750

Angela Creager, Making Mutations Useful: The Development of In Vitro Tests for Carcinogens in the 1970s

Giuditta Parolini, Farming, Meteorology, and Field Experiments: Using Statistics to Improve Agricultural Practices

