

## International Science Matters Committee

On May 30, 2007 and in Ericeira, Portugal, at the end of the First International Conference on Science Matters, an International Science Matters Committee (ISMC) was formed; it consisted of 9 members. Since then the ISMC was expanded. After the first three SciMat conferences in the series, at this point, there are 16 members in the ISMC.

### Members of ISMC (see bios below)

1. Manuel Bicho (Portugal)
2. Peter Broks (UK)
3. Maria Burguete (Portugal)
4. João Caraça (Portugal)
5. Paul Caro (France)
6. Patrick Hogan (USA)
7. Brigitte Hoppe (Germany)
8. Lui Lam (USA) – *Coordinator (Email: lui2002lam@yahoo.com)*
9. Bing Liu (China)
10. Dun Liu (China)
11. John Onians (UK)
12. David Papineau (UK)
13. Nigel Sanitt (UK)
14. Ivo Schneider (Germany)
15. Michael Shermer (USA)
16. Robin Warren (Australia)

### Aims of ISMC

#### Short term:

- z Promote and propagate the idea of Science Matters.
- z Help to find organizers and funding for the next international conferences on Science Matters, to be held once every two years.
- z Oversee the academic quality and integrity of future international conferences on Science Matters.

#### Long term:

- z Help to establish an International Science Matters Society.
- z Help to establish an international journal on Science Matters.

**Manuel Bicho** obtained his Ph.D. in Medicine (Physiology and Biochemistry) in 1985 and M.D. in 1975, both from Lisbon Medical School, University of Lisbon. He is Director of Rocha Cabral Institute, and Director of Genetics Laboratory (since 1995) and Professor of Genetics, Faculty of Medicine of Lisbon (since 1990). His main research area is Biochemical and Molecular Genetics. He was awarded the Ernesto Roma Prize in Diabetes Research (1996) and the Bial Prize of Clinical Medicine (1994).

**Peter Broks** obtained his B.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Lancaster. In 1990 he was a specialist appointment at the University of the West of England, Bristol, to design, develop and teach a new undergraduate programme in “Science, Society and the Media” jointly run by the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Applied Sciences. He has published extensively in the history of science especially as it relates to popular culture and is the author of *Understanding Popular Science* (2006). In August 2011 he left UWE so that he could devote more time to research and writing.

**Maria Burguete** got her Ph.D. in History of Science (contemporary chemistry) from Ludwig Maximilians University at Munich, Germany (2000). She is a scientist and a university lecturer with teaching & research experience in a wide variety of scientific fields. She was a Post-Doc researcher at Coimbra University’s Department of Computational Physics and Faculty of Medicine in Portugal. She is now a scientific researcher at Rocha Cabral Institute in Lisbon. She has published seven books in the scientific field (and seven books of poetry) and over 20 scientific papers.

**João Caraça** obtained the D. Phil. in Nuclear Physics at the University of Oxford (1973). He is Director of the Science Department of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, in Lisbon, and Full Professor of Science and Technology Policy at the Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão of the Universidade Técnica de Lisboa. He is member of the Governing Board of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). He also integrates the Steering Group of the European Forum on Philanthropy and Research Funding and is President of the Advisory Board of the Portuguese Business Association for Innovation (COTEC). Caraça was Science Adviser of the President of the Portuguese Republic (1996-2006) and has published over 150 scientific papers. His main interests are science and technology policy and prospective studies. His recent books include *Limits to Competition* (1995), *Science et Communication* (1999), *Entre a Ciência e a Consciência* (2002), *Le Printemps du Politique* (2007), and *Ideias Perigosas para Portugal* (2010).

**Paul Caro** is a former (retired) Director of Research at CNRS who has worked for many years in inorganic chemistry. He is a rare earths specialist. In the 80’s he became interested in science popularization through newspaper articles (in “Le Monde” and magazines), radio broadcasts (France Culture, Radio Classique, mostly), television shows (TF1), exhibitions in Museums and some books. He was until 2001 in charge of “scientific affairs” at the Cité des Sciences et de l’Industrie in Paris. He is a Corresponding Member of the French Academy of Sciences and a

Member of the French Academy of Technology.

**Patrick Colm Hogan** received his B.A. in Philosophy from Santa Clara University, his M.A. in Philosophy from the University of Chicago, and his Ph.D. in English from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He is the author of 14 books, including *The Mind and Its Stories: Narrative Universals and Human Emotion*; *Cognitive Science, Literature, and the Arts: A Guide for Humanists*; and *Understanding Indian Movies: Culture, Cognition, and Cinematic Imagination*. He recently edited *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the Language Sciences*.

**Brigitte Hoppe** obtained her state diploma in pharmaceutical and biological sciences from the University of Freiburg im Breisgau, her degree of Dr. phil. nat. from the University of Frankfurt am Main (1964), finished the habilitation in History of Science at the University of Muenchen (1972) and became Associate Professor of the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Muenchen in 1980, where she developed a working group in the history of life sciences and chemistry. She published 7 books and more than 200 papers on the history of sciences. She was a member of the editorial board of *History and Philosophy of Life Sciences* for 10 years and is now a member of the editorial board of *Archives Internationales d'Histoire des Sciences*. She is an Effective Member of the *International Academy for History of Science* and member of several national and international Societies for History of Sciences.

**Lui Lam** obtained his B.Sc. from the University of Hong Kong, M.Sc. from the University of British Columbia, and Ph.D. from Columbia University. Prof. Lam invented bowlics (1982), one of three existing types of liquid crystals in the world; active walks (1992), a new paradigm in complex systems; and a new discipline called histophysics (2002). Lam published 14 books and over 170 scientific papers. He is the founder of the International Liquid Crystal Society (1990), the founder and editor-in-chief of two book series: *Partially Ordered Systems* (Springer) and *Science Matters* (World Scientific), and the cofounder of the Chinese Liquid Crystal Society (1980). His current research is in histophysics, complex systems and science matters.

**Bing Liu** obtained his B.Sc. from Peking University (physics department) and M.Sc. from the Graduate School of Chinese Academy of Sciences. Now he is a professor of history of science at Tsinghua University, vice director of the Center for Science Communication and Popularization of CAST and Tsinghua University, and a Guest Professor at some universities in China, such as Shanghai Jiaotong University. His current research include history of physics, historiography of science, philosophy of science, and science communication. He published 17 books (and translated 7 books, edited more than 30 books), over 130 academic papers, and many notes.

**Dun Liu**, former Director of the Institute for the History of Natural Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences (1997-2005), is the incumbent President of the Chinese Society for the History of Science and Technology. His main research field is Chinese mathematics/astronomy and its interaction with the social context, especially in the Ming-Qing transitional period (c.17<sup>th</sup>

century). Also serving as editor-in-chief of the bimonthly journal, *Science & Culture Review*, he currently focuses on such historiographic and cultural topics as “the Needham question” and the “C. P. Snow thesis”.

**John Onians**, studied Classics at Cambridge University and Art History at the Courtauld and Warburg Institutes, London University, before being appointed Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and Professor at the University of East Anglia. He was founding editor of the journal *Art History* and founding Director of Research and Academic Programs at the Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, Mass and has been a Getty Scholar and held Fellowships at the Center for the Advanced Study of the Visual Arts, Washington, and the Wissenschaftskolleg, Berlin. He has published numerous books including, *Art and thought in the Hellenistic Age: The Greek World View 350-50BC* (1979), *Bearers of Meaning: The Classical Orders in Antiquity, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance* (1988) and *Classical Art and the Cultures of Greece and Rome* (1999), and he edited the first *Atlas of World Art* (2004). He is now writing *European Art: A Neuroarthistory*.

**David Papineau**, professor of Philosophy of Science in the Department of Philosophy at King's College London, has a B.Sc. in Mathematics from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and a B.A. and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Cambridge University. He was President of the British Society for the Philosophy of Science (1993-1995) and President of the Mind Association for 2010. He was editor of the *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (1993-1998), a Leverhulme Research Fellow (1999-2000), and a Mind Fellow (2007). His books include *Theory and Meaning* (1980), *Philosophical Naturalism* (1993), and *Thinking about Consciousness* (2002).

**Nigel Sanitt** obtained his B.Sc. from Imperial College London and Part III of the Mathematics Tripos and Ph.D. from Cambridge University. He trained as an astrophysicist at the Institute of Astronomy, Cambridge, before becoming a lecturer at University College, London University. He is founder and editor of *The Pantaneto Forum*. The journal aims to promote debate on how scientists communicate, with particular emphasis on how such communication and research skills can be improved through a better philosophical understanding of science.

**Ivo Schneider** is Professor emeritus for the history of science of the Universität der Bundeswehr München. He was professor and visiting professor at the universities of Munich, Princeton, Bielefeld, the university of Minnesota in Minneapolis and the technical university of Budapest. He is cofounder, editor, coeditor and reviewer of several journals and series of the history of science and the history of mathematics. Special research interests concern the history of classical probability theory, mathematical practitioners and reckoningmasters in the 16th and 17th centuries, scientific instruments in the 17th and 18th centuries, biographies of scientists, science theater and the origins of Bavarian optical industry in the first half of the 19th century. His books comprise a source book of the history of probability theory up to Kolmogorov and biographies of Archimedes, Johannes Faulhaber and Isaac Newton. He is a member of different national and international societies for the history of science and ever since 1995 membre effectif of the Académie Internationale d'Histoire des Sciences. His autobiography was published in 2004 in a

volume devoted to his 65th birthday. In the same year he was honored with the degree of a Doctor honoris causa by the technical university of Budapest.

**Michael Shermer** is the founder and editor of *Skeptic* magazine, a contributing editor and monthly columnist for *Scientific American*, and the host of the Skeptics Distinguished Lecture Series at Caltech. He is the author of *Science Friction*, *The Science of Good and Evil*, *Why People Believe Weird Things*, *How We Believe*, *In Darwin's Shadow*, *The Borderlands of Science*, and *Denying History*. Dr. Shermer received his Ph.D. in the history of science from Claremont Graduate School.

**Robin Warren** was born in 1937, in Adelaide, South Australia. He graduated M.B., B.S. from the University of Adelaide in 1961. After training at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, he was admitted to the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia in 1967. Since then, he was a senior consultant pathologist at the Royal Perth Hospital in Western Australia, becoming emeritus consultant pathologist in 1998. In 2005 he (together with Barry Marshall) was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the “discovery of the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* and its role in [gastritis](#) and peptic ulcer disease.”