

CURRICULUM VITAE
Jonathan C. Coopersmith

Department of History
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843
(979) 845-8584
862-4314 fax
j-coopersmith@tamu.edu
people.tamu.edu/~j-coopersmith

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Texas A&M University	
Associate Professor	1995+
Assistant Professor	1988-95
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	
Visiting Assistant Professor	summer 1987

EDUCATION

Oxford University	
D.Phil., Department of Modern History	1985
Princeton University	
A.B., History and Philosophy of Science Program	1978

CURRENT RESEARCH

History of the facsimile machine, 1843-2000
Pornography and communications technologies
Financing global electrification project

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

Texas A&M University	
Faculty Development Leave	2001-02
Texas A&M University	
Faculty Development Leave	1995-96

National Science Foundation Science, Technology, and Society Program	1994-95
Texas A&M University International Research Travel Grant	1994
Texas A&M University Military Studies Institute Research Grant	1993
National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution Visiting Fellow	1991-92
Hoover Institution, Stanford University Visiting Scholar, Title VIII Program	1987-88
Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Postgraduate Fellow in Electrical Engineering History Program in Science, Technology and Society MIT	1986-87
Russian Research Center, Harvard University Visiting Scholar	1986-87
International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) Fellowship to Moscow State University	1985-86
University of Pennsylvania Graduate visitor, Department of the History and Sociology of Science	1981-82

BOOKS

The Electrification of Russia, 1880-1926 (Cornell University Press, 1992).

with Roger Launius, eds., Taking Off: A Century of Manned Flight (Reston, Virginia: American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, 2003).

PUBLICATIONS

“The Dog That Did Not Bark during the Night: The "Normalcy" of Russian, Soviet, and Post-Soviet Science and Technology Studies,” Technology & Culture 47,3 (July 2006), 623-37.

“Does Your Mother Know What You *Really* Do? The Changing Nature and Image of Computer-Based Pornography,” History and Technology 22,1 (March 2006), 1-25.

“Nuclear Waste Disposal in Space: BEP's Best Hope?” in K. Komurasaki, T. Yabe, S. Uchida, and A. Sasoh, eds., Beamed Energy Propulsion, Fourth International Symposium. November 2005, Nara, Japan (Washington, DC: American Institute of Physics; 2006), 600-04.

“The Soviet Union and Nazi Germany,” in W. Bernard Carlson, ed., Technology in World History (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), VI, 36-63.

“The changing picture of fax,” in Bernard Finn, principal editor, Presenting Pictures: Artefacts 4 (2004), 116-128.

“When Worlds Collide: Government and Electrification, 1892-1939,” Business and Economic History On-line 1 (2003)
(<http://www.h-net.org/~business/bhcweb/publications/BEHonline/2003/Coopersmith.pdf>)

“Flying the Unprofitable Skies: Commercial Aviation in America,” in Jonathan Coopersmith and Roger Launius, eds., Taking Off: A Century of Manned Flight (Reston, Virginia: American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, 2003), 93-108.

“Pretty Good Technologies and Visible Disasters,” Technology and Culture 42,1 (January 2001), 204-07.

"From Lemons to Lemonade: The Development of AP Wirephoto," American Journalism 17,4 (Fall 2000), 55-72.

“Pornography, Video, and the Internet,” IEEE Technology and Society Magazine 19,1 (Spring 2000): 27-34.

“Creating an Infrastructure for Space Exploitation: Space Disposal of High-Level Nuclear Waste,” Space 2000. The Seventh International Conference and Exposition on Engineering, Construction, Operations, and Business in Space (February 27 - March 2, 2000) Albuquerque, New Mexico (Reston, Va.: ASCE, 2000), 624-30.

"Creating the Commons: Establishing a Civic Space for a New Form of Communications," Business and Economic History 28,1 (Fall 1999), 115-24.

"The Role of the Pornography Industry in the Development of Videotape and the Internet," in Women and Technology: Historical, Societal, and Professional Perspectives. IEEE International Symposium on Technology and Society 1999 (ISTAS '99) (New Brunswick, NJ: IEEE, 1999), 175-82.

"Pornography, Technology, and Progress," ICON 4 (1998), 94-125.

"Texas Politics and the Fax Revolution," Information Systems Research 7,1 (March 1996), 37-51; reprinted with a coda in JoAnne Yates and John Van Maanen, eds., Information Technology and Organizational Transformation: History, Rhetoric, and Practice (Thousand Oaks, Cal.: Sage

Publications, 2001), 59-85.

"Setting the Stage: Government-Industry Creation of the Japanese Fax Industry," Japan Industry and Management of Technology (JIMT) Series Working Paper 97-03-1, University of Texas, March 1997.

"Technological Innovation and Failure: The Case of the Fax Machine," Proceedings of the Conference on Business History (Rotterdam: Centre of Business History, Erasmus University, 1995), 61-77.

"The Failure of Fax: When a Vision Is Not Enough," Business and Economic History 23,1 (Fall 1994), 272-282.

"Soviet Electrification: The Roads Not Taken," IEEE Technology and Society Magazine, 12,2 (Summer 1993), 13-20.

"Facsimile's false starts," IEEE Spectrum, February 1993, 46-49.

"Technology Transfer in Russian Electrification, 1870-1925," History of Technology, 13 (1991), 214-33.

(with Paul R. Josephson) "Soviet-American Scientific and Technical Cooperation: Lessons from the Past," in Center for Foreign Policy Development, Soviet Foreign Economic Policy and International Security (Boston: M.E. Sharpe, 1991), 185-208.

"The Role of the Military in the Electrification of Russia, 1870-1890," in E. Mendelsohn, M.R. Smith and P. Weingart (eds.), Science, Technology and the Military 12 (1988): 291-305.

OTHER ARTICLES

Nuclear Waste in Space," spacereview.com August 22, 2005,
(thespacereview.com/article/437/1)

"In What One Way Is Ralph Nader Like Lenin?" History News Network September 15, 2004.
(hnn.us/articles/7297.html)

"Essay Review: A Machine Named Ginger: Steve Kemper, *Code Name Ginger*," Technology & Culture 45,3 (July 2004), 603-07.

"The French Roots of the Fax," Antenna April 2004 (16,2), 5-8.

"No Cheap Ticket to Outer Space," distributed to approximately 300 metropolitan daily newspapers by the History News Service, February 1, 2004.
(www.h-net.org/~hns/articles/2004/020104a.html)

“China's Manned Space Program: an Opportunity for Cooperation,” distributed to approximately 300 metropolitan daily newspapers by the History News Service, October 13, 2003.
(www.h-net.org/~hns/articles/2003/101403a.html).

“Can We Boldly Go There Anymore,” distributed to approximately 300 metropolitan daily newspapers by the History News Service, February 7, 2003
(<http://www.h-net.org/~hns/articles/2003/020703a.html>).

“Humans in Space: Is the Cost Too High?” AAS Space Times July-August, 2002, 3.

“Taking Up the Garbage,” Ad Astra 14,4 (July-August 2002), 36-39.

“Membership Has Its Partisans,” IEEE Annals of the History of Computing 24,2 (April-June 2002), 103-04. (www.computer.org/annals/an2002/pdf/a2104.pdf).

“Humans in Space: Is the Cost Too High?” AIAA Horizons Newsletter February 2002, 3-4.
(www.jsc.nasa.gov/aiaa/horizons/feb02/feb02.pdf).

“Investing in Efficiency,” Dallas Morning News June 25, 2001.

“The Politician as the Patron,” IEEE Annals of the History of Computing 22,4 (October-December 2000), 88-89.

“But Al Gore Did Help Invent the Internet,” distributed to approximately ninety metropolitan daily newspapers by the History News Service, October 24, 2000
(www.h-net.org/~hns/articles/2000/102400a.html)

"Applying the History of Technology in the Teaching of World History," World History Bulletin 15,2 (Fall 1999), 16-20.

"Thirty Years since Apollo 11," distributed to approximately fifty metropolitan daily newspapers by the History News Service July 14, 1999 (www.h-net.org/~hns/articles/1999/071499a.html).

“Taking Up the Garbage: Disposal of Nuclear Waste in Space,” Space Manufacturing 12: Challenges and Opportunities. Proceedings of the Fourteenth SSI/Princeton Conference on Space Manufacturing May 6-9, 1999 Princeton, N.J. (Princeton: Space Studies Institute, 1999), 111-15.

"Communications Technology and the Collapse of the Soviet Union," February, 1999.
(www.irex.org/programs/conferences/coopersmith-paper.htm)

"Disposal of Nuclear Waste in Space," Space News February 13, 1995, 15.

"Just the Fax: How Japanese Manufacturers Came to Dominate a Critical Technology," Economic Strategy Institute, 1994.

"The History of Biotechnology: A Bibliographic Review of Sources," Center for Biotechnology Policy and Ethics, Texas A&M University, March, 1991.

"Spring Thaw in Space," Aerospace America, May, 1989.

"Who Should be the President's Next Science Advisor?" The Scientist, 3 April 1989.

"Setting a Science Agenda for the Presidential Candidates," The Scientist, 25 July 1988.

"Space: The Russian Frontier," The Wall Street Journal, 25 April 1988.

"Teaching the History of Technology," Science, Technology & Society curriculum newsletter, February, 1988.

"Electrical engineering history in Britain," Center for the History of Electrical Engineering Newsletter, October, 1983.

"Report on the March 26, 1989 Soviet Elections for the Congress of People's Deputies," paper for the Center for Democracy.

"Critique of Unispace '82," internal paper for the Department of State.

Book reviews for American Journal of Physics, Business History, Canadian American Slavic Studies, Isis, Journal of Social History, Russian Review, Science, Slavic Review, Technology & Culture, Forum for Applied Research and Public Policy, and other journals.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

President and co-founder, Texas A&M University Chapter, American Association of University Professors, 1997-98; President, 1999-2000; Secretary, 2001+.

Secretary, Texas Conference, American Association of University Professors, 2002+.

Secretary, Liberal Arts Council, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University, 2006-07; History Department representative, 2005+.

Member, Faculty Senate, Texas A&M University, 1996-2001.

Secretary, 2004-2008, Section on History and Philosophy of Science, American Association for the Advancement of Science; Member-at-Large, 2000-2004.

Representative of History of Science Society to Section on History and Philosophy of Science, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2005-08.

Member, NASA Historical Advisory Committee, 1993+.

Member, National Science Foundation Advisory Panel for Science, Technology and Society Studies, fall, 2001.

Member, IEEE History Committee, 1993-95.

Member, Texas A&M University Press Faculty Advisory Committee, 2002-08.

Member, Editorial Committee of the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT), 2000-05; chair, 2003-04.

Member, Program Committee of SHOT, 1994-96; chair, 1995.

Member, Robinson Prize Committee of SHOT, 1990-1992.

Chair, IEEE Prize Committee of SHOT, 1992; member, 1991-93.

Member, Urban History Association Prize Committee for Best Non-North American Book, 1991.

Chair, Jovians (electrical technology) SHOT interest group, 1994+.

Treasurer, WITH (women and technology) SHOT interest group, 2005+.

Book review editor, Mercurians (communications) SHOT interest group, 1994-2001.

Participant, NSF Workshop on the Human Dimension of Knowledge Networking, Santa Barbara, June 1997.

Commentator, organizer, and chair of sessions at AHA, SHOT, AAASS, SHA, HSS, BHC, Society for the Social Studies of Science.

Commentator, "Symposium on Democracy and the Culture of Communications," Case Western Reserve University, April, 1995.

Reviewer of manuscripts for Cambridge University Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, IEEE Press, Metascience, NASA History Office, MIT Press, Oxford University Press, Problems of Post-Communism, Rutgers University Press, Smithsonian Institution Press, Spectrum, Social Problems, Technology & Culture, and Texas A&M University Press.

Reviewer of proposals for the NSF Science, Technology, and Society Program.

NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Center for Democracy

Observer to the elections for the Congress of People's

Deputies, U.S.S.R. 1989

Department of State

Intern, U.S. delegation to the United Nations Conference
on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (Unispace '82) 1982

Office of Energy Information Validation, Department of Energy
Analyst of data on petroleum imports and synthetic fuels research
1979-80