

[July 2010]

Curriculum Vitae

MERRITT ROE SMITH

ADDRESS: Program in Science, Technology, and Society
Room E51-194B
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

TELEPHONE: (617) 253-4008/4044

EDUCATION: Ph.D., History, The Pennsylvania State University, 1971
M.A., History, The Pennsylvania State University, 1965
A.B., History, Georgetown University, 1963

ACADEMIC POSTS:

Leverett Howell Cutten and William King Cutten Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1994--
Metcalf Professor of Engineering and the Liberal Arts, School of Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1989-1992
Professor of the History of Technology, Program in Science, Technology and Society, History Faculty, and Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1978--
Visiting Professor, Department of History & Sociology of Science, The University of Pennsylvania, Spring Semester, 1976
Associate Professor, Department of History, The Ohio State University, 1974-1978
Assistant Professor, Department of History, The Ohio State University, 1970-1974

ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS:

Housemaster, Burton-Connor House (Student Residence), MIT, July 2004-
Co-Principal Investigator, Program on Emerging Technologies (PoET), MIT, 2003-2009
Director, Program in Science, Technology, and Society, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1992-1996, 2000-2002
Founding Director, Doctoral Program in the History and Social Study of Science and Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1987-1992
Co-Director, Contexts Initiative, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1989-1992
Acting Co-Director, Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, 1989-1992

HONORS, AWARDS, AND DISTINCTIONS:

Arthur C. Smith Award, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2006
Distinguished Lecturer (by presidential appointment), Organization of American Historians, 2004-2013
Honorary Guest Professor, Kanazawa Institute of Technology (Kanazawa, Japan), 2004-
Co-principal Investigator, NSF-IGERT Grant, National Science Foundation, 2003-2009
Founder's Day Award for Scholarly Distinction, The Charles River Museum of Industry
(Waltham, MA), Nov. 25, 2003
Outstanding Liberal Arts Alumni Award, College of Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State
University, March 25, 1999
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, May 1997
Inaugural Richmond Lecturer, Williams College, September 1995
Inaugural Lecturer, The Netherlands Graduate School in Science, Technology, and
Cultural Values, May 1995
Leonardo da Vinci Medal, Society for the History of Technology, 1994
Fellow (by election), Massachusetts Historical Society, 1993
Research Grant, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, 1992-2004
Fellow (by election), American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1991
President, Society for the History of Technology, 1988-1990
NEH-NSF Fellow, Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania,
Spring 1989
Vice-president, Society for the History of Technology, 1986-1988
Regents Fellow, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution,
1984-1985
NSF Scholar, National Science Foundation, 1984
Guggenheim Fellow, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, 1983
U.S. Senior Fulbright Scholar, University of Linköping (Sweden), Spring 1983
Fellow (by election), American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1981
Honorable Mention, The Thomas Newcomen Award in Business History (see book),
Newcomen Society in North America and The Business History Review, 1980
Member (by election), American Antiquarian Society, 1980
Senior Fellow, Regional Economic History Research Center, Eleutherian Mills-Hagley
Foundation, 1978-1979
Pfizer Award (see book), History of Science Society, 1978
Certificate of Commendation (see book), American Association for State and Local History,
1978
Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award, The Ohio State University, 1978
Frederick Jackson Turner Award (see book), Organization of American Historians, 1977
Senior Resident Scholar, Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation, Summer 1976
Thomas Alvin Boyd Lecturer, College of Engineering, The Ohio State University, 1976
Harvard-Newcomen Fellow, Graduate School of Business Administration, Harvard
University, 1974-1975
Grantee, American Philosophical Society, 1974

Development Fund Faculty Fellow, College of Humanities, The Ohio State University,
Summer 1974
R.Y. Boucke Fellow, The Pennsylvania State University, 1969-1970
Visiting Research Associate, Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Smithsonian
Institution, 1969
Predoctoral Fellow, Department of Technology and Science, Smithsonian Institution,
1967-1968

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

Harpers Ferry Armory and the New Technology (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1977; paperback ed., 1980). Recipient of the 1977 Frederick Jackson Turner Award, 1978 Pfizer Award, and the 1978 AASLH Certificate of Commendation. Also accorded Honorable Mention for the 1980 Newcomen Award in Business History and nominated for the 1977 Pulitzer Prize in History.

Military Enterprise and Technological Change: Perspectives on the American Experience (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1985; paperback ed., 1987; Japanese translation by K. Chicku, 1988). An essay in this volume received the 1987 IEEE Award from the Society for the History of Technology.

Science, Technology, and the Military (Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1988). Vol. XII/1 *Sociology of the Sciences: A Yearbook*. A volume co-edited with Everett Mendelsohn and Peter Weingart.

Does Technology Drive History? The Dilemma of Technological Determinism (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1994; Spanish language edition by Alianza Editorial, Madrid, 1996). A volume co-edited with Leo Marx.

Reconceptualizing the Industrial Revolution (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2010). A volume co-edited with Leonard Rosenband and Jeff Horn.

TEXTBOOKS:

Major Problems in the History of American Technology (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1998). An anthology co-edited with Gregory Clancey.

Inventing America: A History of the United States, co-authored with Daniel J. Kevles, Alexander Keyssar, and Pauline Maier (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2003; 2nd edition 2006). Project director and author of chapters 9-16.

ARTICLES AND ESSAYS:

- "George Washington and the Establishment of the Harpers Ferry Armory," Virginia Magazine of History and Biography 81 (1973): 415-436.
- "John H. Hall, Simeon North, and the Milling Machine: The Nature of Innovation Among Antebellum Arms Makers," Technology and Culture 14 (1973): 573-591.
- "Toward a Standard of Excellence: The Second Installment," Technology and Culture 15 (1974): 76-79.
- "From Craftsman to Mechanic," in Technological Innovation and the Decorative Arts, eds., I.M.G. Quimby and P.A. Earl (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1974), pp. 103-139.
- "The American Precision Museum," Technology and Culture 15 (1974): 413-437.
- "Military Arsenals and Industry Before World War I," in War, Business and American Society: Historical Perspectives on the Military-Industrial Complex, ed. B.F. Cooling (Port Washington, NY: Kennikat Press, 1977), pp. 24-42.
- "Social Change in Early Industrial Communities," in Working Papers from the Regional Economic History Research Center, eds. G. Porter and W. Mulligan, Jr. (Greenville, DE: Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation, 1977), pp. 79-86.
- "Eli Whitney and the American System," in Technology in America, ed., C.W. Pursell (Washington: Voice of America Forum Series, 1979; re-issued by MIT Press, 1981; revised and expanded ed., 1990), pp. 49-65.
- "Military Entrepreneurship," in Yankee Enterprise: The Rise of the American System of Manufactures, eds., O. Mayr and R.C. Post (Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1981), pp. 63-102; also reprinted in Military Enterprise and Technological Change (see above), pp. 39-86.
- "Two Cultures in Conflict: Soldiers, Civilians, and Technological Change, 1815-1860," Polhem 1(No. 2, 1983): 1-13. Also reprinted in Soldiers and Civilians: The U.S. Army and the American People, eds., Garry D. Ryan and Timothy K. Nenninger (Washington: National Archives and Records Administration, 1987), pp. 81-90.
- "History of Technology in America" (with David Noble), in The Machine in the University ed. Stephen H. Cutcliffe (Bethlehem, PA: Lehigh University, 1983), pp. 107-121.

- "Social Processes and Technological Change," Reviews in American History 13 (June 1985): 157-166. An extended version of the essay appeared in Annali di Storia Dell'Impresa 2 (1986): 549-560.
- Forward to Hugh Aitken's Scientific Management in Action (Princeton University Press, 1985), pp. v-xi.
- "Technology, Industrialization, and the Idea of Progress in America," in Responsible Science: The Impact of Technology on Society, ed., Kevin Byrne (New York: Harper & Row, 1986), pp. 1-30.
- "Contextual Contrasts: Recent Trends in the History of Technology" (co-authored with Steven C. Reber), in Ceramics and Civilization, Vol. III: High Technology Ceramics, ed. W. David Kingery (Westerville, OH: American Ceramics Society, 1986), pp. 1-19. A revised version published in In Context: History and the History of Technology -- Essays in Honor of Melvin Kranzberg, eds. Stephen Cutcliffe and Robert C. Post (Bethlehem, PA: Lehigh University Press, 1988), pp. 133-149.
- Biographical contributions (Samuel Colt, Richard Gatling, John M. Browning, et al.), World Book Encyclopedia (1990 edition).
- "Becoming Engineers in Early Industrial America," Working Paper Number 13 (1990), Program in Science, Technology and Society, MIT, pp. 1-31.
- "Technology, Industrialization, and the Idea of Progress in America," Timeline 8 (Feb. - March 1991): 2-17; 8 (April - May 1991): 30-43.
- "Industry, Technology, and the 'Labor Question' in 19th-Century America: Seeking Synthesis," Technology and Culture 32 (July 1991): 555-570.
- "Who Initiated the Computer Age?" Reviews in American History 21 (December 1993): 687-692.
- "Technological Determinism in American Culture," in Does Technology Drive History?, eds. M.R. Smith and Leo Marx (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1994), pp. 1-35.
- "Samuel Colt, 1814-1862," in The Oxford Companion to American Military History, eds. Fred Anderson, et al. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000).
- "New England Industry and the Federal Government," in Engines of Enterprise: An Economic History of New England, ed. Peter Temin (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2000), pp. 261-68.
- "What Can History Teach Us About Invention and Creativity?" in Invention: Enhancing for Quality of Life, Competitiveness, and Sustainability, ed. Merton Flemings (Cambridge, MA: Lemelson-MIT Program and National Science Foundation, 2004), pp. 35-42.

“Alfred duPont Chandler, Jr.,” *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society* 117 (Part 2, 2007): 309-311.

“America’s Coming of Age: Daniel Walker Howe’s *What Hath God Wrought*,” *Technology and Culture* 50 (Jan. 2009): 187-192.

“1875: Buffalo Bill Cody Proclaims the Winchester Rifle ‘the boss’,” in *A New Literary History of America*, ed. G. Marcus and W. Sollars (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009), pp. 353-358.

“W. David Lewis, 1931-2007,” *Technology and Culture* 51 (Jan. 2010): 290-292.

“‘God Speed the Institute’: The Foundational Years,” in *MIT: Moments Of Decision*, ed. David I. Kaiser (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2010), pp. 15-36.

“Taking Stock of the Industrial Revolution in America,” in Reconceptualizing the Industrial Revolution, eds. L. Rosenband, J. Horn, and M. R. Smith (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2010).

AUDIO-VISUAL PRODUCTIONS AND TEACHING MATERIALS

"The Transportation Revolution and the Transformation of 19th Century American Society" (with M. Blackford and A. Kerr; Teaching Aids Lab, The Ohio State University, 1975).

"The Iron Road" (with Neil Goodwin, Peace River Films, 1990), for the television series, "The American Experience," WGBH, Boston. Primary consultant.

"Lowell Industry" (W. W. Norton & Co., 2001), a video segment for a DVD accompanying the first edition of Inventing America (2003).

“Civil War and Reconstruction” (MIT Open Course Ware, 2005)

“Technology in American History” (MIT Open Course Ware, 2006)

PUBLISHED INTERVIEWS:

“Swords into Plowshares,” American Heritage of Invention and Technology 1 (Spring 1986): 34-40 (interview by Victor K. McElheny).

“Inventing America,” American Heritage of Invention and Technology 19 (Winter 2004): 39-43 (interview by Arthur Molella).

“MIT Profiles: Merritt Roe Smith,” MIT Faculty Newsletter 18 (No. 2; Nov./Dec. 2005): 8-10 (interview by David Lewis).

“Newcomen Award Winners: Where Are They Now?” Newcomen Now [the magazine of the Newcomen Society of the United States] 82 (No. 5; Spring 2006): 11.

REVIEWS:

Journal of American History (5 books)
Technology and Culture (11 books)
Business History Review (5 books)
American Historical Review (4 books)
Journal of Economic History (1 book)
William and Mary Quarterly (1 book)
Journal of Interdisciplinary History (3 books)
New England Quarterly (3 books)
Pennsylvania History (2 books)
Isis (4 books)
Virginia Magazine of History and Biography (1 book)
Labor (1 book)
Choice (14 books)
Boston Globe (2 books)
Technology Review (1 book)

EDITORIAL SERVICE (as series editor, manuscript evaluator, etc.):

Johns Hopkins University Press (Series Editor, *Johns Hopkins Studies in the History of Technology*, 1988--; Advisory editor, 1977-1987)
 Thomas A. Edison Papers, Rutgers University (Editorial Advisory Board, 1995--)
Archimedes: New Studies in the History & Philosophy of Science and Technology (Editorial Advisory Board, 1995-2000)
Business History Review (Editorial Board, 1978-1981, 1981-1985)
Technology and Culture (Advisory Editor, 1972-1978, 1983-1990; Exhibit Review Editor, 1978-1983)
 The M.I.T. Press (Editorial Board, 1986-91)
 Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
 Oxford University Press
 Princeton University Press
 Cambridge University Press
 Stanford University Press
 The Ohio State University Press
 Society for Social Studies of Science

Journal of American History
Science, Technology and Human Values
American Historical Review
Ohio History
Social Studies of Science
Harvard Magazine

WORK IN PROGRESS: BOOKS

Swords and Ploughshares: A Technological Perspective on the American Civil War and the Emergence of Modern America. One chapter drafted; six remain.

'A Mechanical Age': Technology and Social Change in the Early American Industrial Revolution (c. 1789-1880). An interpretative volume aimed at a general audience. Four chapters drafted; two remain.

PROFESSIONAL AND HONORARY AFFILIATIONS:

American Academy of Arts and Sciences (elected Fellow, 1991)
 Society for the History of Technology (President, 1988-90; Vice-President, 1986-88; Executive Council, 1978-1981, 1991-1994; Advisory Council, 1977-1978)
 Massachusetts Historical Society (elected Fellow, 1993)
 American Association for the Advancement of Science (elected Fellow, 1981)
 American Antiquarian Society (by election, 1980)
 Phi Kappa Phi (by election, 1978)
 Newcomen Society in North America (honorary member, 1974)
 Society for Industrial Archeology
 Business History Conference
 History of Science Society
 American Historical Association
 Organization of American Historians
 Society for Historians of the Early American Republic
 Society for Military History
 Phi Alpha Theta (by election, 1962)
Who's Who in the Midwest (16th edition)
Who's Who in America (42nd-65th editions)
Who's Who in the World (6th edition)
Who's Who in the East (25th-33rd editions)
Who's Who in American Education (6th – 7th editions)
International Who's Who in Education
 American Publishing's Who's Who in Society (1988 edition)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Consultant/proposal reviewer, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, spring 2009
Consultant, Permanent Exhibit Planning Committee, American Precision Museum, 2008-
Consultant to Professor David P. Billington, Dept. of Civil Engineering, Princeton University,
October 15-17, 2008
Consultant, Exhibit Plan, The Henry Ford, January-March 2008
Co-chair, Research, Publications and Collections Committees (with Prof. Richard Candee,
Boston University), American Textile History Museum, 2008—
Member, Screening Committee, Lemeulson-MIT Award for Sustainability, November 2007-
January 2008
Tour leader, “Harpers Ferry in the Industrial Revolution,” Annual Meeting of the Society for
the History of Technology, October 20, 2007
Board of Advisors, American Precision Museum, 2006-
Member, Leonardo da Vinci Prize Committee, Society for the History of Technology, 2005-
07
Chair, Eugene S. Ferguson Prize, Society for the History of Technology, 2005-07
Nominator, The Heinz Awards, The Heinz Family Foundation, 2005
Board of Advisors, Boston History Collaborative, 2005-
Co-organizer, Workshop on “The Industrial Revolution: A Global Perspective,” Dibner
Institute, April 2-3, 2005
Lincoln Prize Advisory Committee, Gettysburg College, 2004-
Consultant to WGBH/Nova Series on “Materials in History,” Oct. 13, 2004
Co-Principal Investigator (with Daniel Hastings and Kenneth Oye), “The Impact of New
Technologies,” IGERT Grant, National Science Foundation, 2003-
Consultant/interviewee, “Inventors and Invention,” WGBH-Boston, 2003 (program aired
in connection with the publication of Sir Harold Evans’ book, They Made America)
Member, NASA/AHA Fellowship Selection Committee, The American Historical
Association, 2002-06; chair, 2004
Inductee, MIT Quarter Century Club, April 1, 2003
Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, Science Writing Program, MIT, February 2003
Member, External Review Committee, Science and Technology Studies Department,
Graduate School, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, February 14-15, 2003
Book consultant, Sir Harold Evans/Sloan Foundation, 2002-2003
Faculty Fellow, MacGregor House, MIT, 2001-2003
Jury Member, Lemuelson-MIT Prize and Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, 2001--
Visiting Committee Member, School of History, Technology and Society, Ivan Allen
College, Georgia Institute of Technology, March 24-26, 2002
Fellowship Selection Committee, American Antiquarian Society, spring 2001
Exhibit consultant, Economic History Museum Project, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston,
1999--
Television consultant, Greystone Communications, Valley Village, CA, 1998-2000
Television consultant, Unicorn Productions, Washington, D.C., 1996--
National Advisory Board, The Steamtown Institute, University of Scranton/National

Park Service, Scranton, PA, 1995—
Board of Advisors, American Museum of Textile History, Lowell, MA, 1995-
Collections Committee, American Museum of Textile History, Lowell, MA, 1995--
At-Large Trustee, The Anne S. K. Brown Military Collection Committee of Management,
Brown University, 1994-2000
Committee on Research, Massachusetts Historical Society, 1994-95
Exhibit consultant, "Colt: A Victorian Saga," Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT,
1993-96
Board of Advisors, "A Life of Science" Television Series, WGBH Boston, 1993-95
Project Director, Sloan American History Textbook Project, 1992-2005
Editorial consultant, Strategic Computing Initiative book project, Corporation for
National Research Initiatives, University of Southern California, 1992-96
Executive Council, Society for the History of Technology, 1991-96
Chair, Leonardo da Vinci Award Committee, Society for the History of
Technology, 1992
Member-at-Large (by election), Section on History and Philosophy of Science, American
Association for the Advancement of Science, 1991-95
NASA History Advisory Committee, National Aeronautics and Space Administration,
Washington, DC, 1990-93
Secretary of the Air Force History Advisory Committee, Washington, DC, 1990-92
Consultant, History of Technology Graduate Program, Georgia Institute of Technology,
Atlanta, GA, 1990
Academic Advisory Board, Department of the History of Technology, Royal Institute of
Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, 1990-97
Board of Trustees, Museum of American Textile History, 1990-95
Exhibit consultant, "Made in America," The Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, Michigan,
March 2, 1990
Panel Member, Research in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, National
Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, January 30, 1990
Exhibit Consultant, "Milestones of a Revolution," The Computer Museum, Boston,
1989-90
Member of the Corporation, American Museum of Textile History, 1989--
Trustee of the Foundation, Charles Babbage Institute (University of Minnesota), 1989-97
Advisory Committee to Historical Exhibits, The Computer Museum (Boston), 1989-92
Sloan Program Visitor, Trinity College, April 1989
Advisory Board, New Liberal Arts Book Series, Sloan Foundation, 1988-91
Information Processing Technology Office (IPTO) History Advisory Committee, 1988-92
Senior Staff Member, Center for International Studies, MIT, 1987--
Planning Committee Member, Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology,
Cambridge, MA, 1987-92
NSF Site Visit Team, Edison Papers and Einstein Papers, Princeton University, April 3-4,
1987
Oversight Panel for the History & Philosophy of Science Program, National Science
Foundation, 1986
Advisory Council, "Made in America" Exhibit, National Museum of American History,
Smithsonian Institution, 1986-88

National Advisory Board, WGBH American History Television Series, ("The American Experience"), WGBH Boston, 1985--
Editorial and Research Committee, Museum of American Textile History, 1986--
Board of Trustees, Hagley Museum and Library, 1985-2001
Historical consultant, Raber Associates, Hartford, CT, 1985-89
Board of Advisors, The MIT Museum, 1984-2006
Historical consultant, Old Sturbridge Village, 1985-90
Program consultant, WGBH NOVA and IEEE SPECTRUM series on technological change, 1985
Visiting Committee, Department of History, Lehigh University, 1984-87, 1988-91
Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, 27th Annual Meeting, Society for the History of Technology, Cambridge, MA, November 1984
Chair, Dwight B. Fairman Prize Committee, American Precision Museum Association, 1985
Exhibit consultant, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, 1982-1984
Exhibit consultant, Charles River Industries Museum, 1982
Member, History and Heritage Committee, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, 1981-1984
Member, Visiting Committee, Department of History, University of Delaware, 1981
Chair, Dexter Prize Committee, Society for the History of Technology, 1980-1982
Member, U.S. National Committee for the International Union of the History and Philosophy of Science, National Academy of Science, 1979-1983
Board Member, Council for Understanding Technology in Human Affairs, 1979-1983
Exhibit consultant, Slater Mill Historic Site, 1979-1980
Project consultant, Curriculum Materials for Humanistic Studies in Modern Engineering, Princeton University, 1979-1985, 1986-87
American Culture Panel, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1979
Academic Advisory Board, Regional Economic History Research Center, Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation, 1979-1982
Executive Council (by election), Society for the History of Technology, 1978-1981
Steering Committee, Battelle Endowment on Technology and Human Affairs, The Ohio State University, 1977-1978
Exhibit consultant, The Franklin Institute, 1977-1978
Advisory Council Society for the History of Technology, 1977-1978
Member, Usher Prize Committee, Society for the History of Technology, 1976
Project reviewer, National Science Foundation, 1976--
Project reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1977--
Project consultant, Regional Economic History Research Center, Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation, 1975-1976
Member Program Committee, Society for the History of Technology, Washington D.C., meeting, 1975
Consultant, The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc., 1973
Member, Program Committee, Society for the History of Technology, San Francisco meeting, 1973
Museum Committee, Society for the History of Technology, 1972-1983 (chair, 1974-1978)
Consultant, Archeological Associates, Inc., Alexandria, VA, 1971

Board of Trustees, American Precision Museum, Windsor, VT, 1969-1977, 1979-1985
Member, Mershon Group on Technology and Foreign Affairs, The Ohio State University,
1972-1973

LECTURES, INTERVIEWS, AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

- “General James W. Ripley and Army Ordnance During the American Civil War: A Revisionist Perspective,” Massachusetts Arms Collectors, Northborough, MA, May 16, 2010.
- “The Role of Women in America’s First Industrial Revolution,” OAH Distinguished Lecture, Teaching American History Workshop, Northern Illinois University/Rockford Public Schools, Rockford, IL, April 24, 2010.
- “The Business and Technological Implications of the American Civil War,” American Precision Museum and Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, Woodstock, VT, April 16, 2010.
- “Technology in Civil War America,” MIT Presidential Fellows, Sydney-Pacific House, Dec. 10, 2010.
- “War, Technology, and American Industrialization, 1815-1890,” Deerfield Teachers Center, Deerfield, MA, Aug. 6, 2009.
- “Inventing America: Lowell and the Industrial Revolution,” Teaching American History Workshop, Tsongas Center/Lowell National Park/U-Mass Lowell, Lowell, MA [four lectures on June 29, July 6, July 13, August 3, 2009; re-delivered on June 28, July 12, and July 22, 2010].
- Comment, “Battle Logs: The Ruination of Southern Forests during the American Civil War,” Boston Environmental History Seminar, Massachusetts Historical Society, February 10, 2009
- “‘God and the Strongest Battalions’: A Technological Perspective on the American Civil War,” Northeast Connecticut Civil War Round Table, The Rectory School, Pomfret, CT, November 12, 2008
- “The Industrial Revolution in America, 1815-1890,” School of Education, Long Island University/C. W. Post Campus, October 6, 2008
- “Historical Perspectives on Engineering Systems,” Doctoral Seminar in Engineering Systems (ESD-83), Division of Engineering Systems, MIT, September 17, 2008
- “War, Technology, and American Industrialization, 1815-1890,” Deerfield Teachers’ Center Workshop, Westfield State College, Westfield, MA, July 17, 2008; re-delivered on July 16, 2009
- “Why the South Lost the Civil War,” Road Scholar/MIT Alumni Charter Program, Gettysburg Hotel, Gettysburg, PA, May 1, 2008
- “Harpers Ferry and Its Historical Significance,” Road Scholar/MIT Alumni Charter Program, Gettysburg Hotel, April 29, 2008
- “Lincoln and the Tools of War,” Road Scholar/MIT Alumni Charter Program, Gettysburg Hotel, April 28, 2008
- “Samuel Colt and the American System,” Public Lecture, National Cowboy & Western

- Heritage Museum, Oklahoma City, OK, December 7, 2007
- Chair, "Technological Enthusiasm and the User: Aesthetics, Passion, and Innovation," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT), Washington, D.C., October 19, 2007
- "Standards, Protocols, and the American System of Manufactures," SynBERC Conference, Hotel at MIT, September 15, 2007
- "The Legacy of Robbins & Lawrence," Public Lecture, American Precision Museum, Windsor, VT, August 19, 2007
- "The Significance of Lowell and the Industrial Revolution," Malden Public Schools/Tsongas Center, National Park Service, August 6, 2007
- "Inventing America: Lowell and the Industrial Revolution," NEH Landmarks Workshop for Teachers, Tsongas Center/UMass-Lowell, June 25, July 30, 2007
- "Science in Action: The U.S. Army's Role in the Exploration of the American West, 1803-1861," MIT Alumni Association, Grandlux Tour of the Rocky Mountains, July 18, 2007
- "The West in American History," MIT Alumni Association, Grandlux Tour of the Rocky Mountains, July 17, 2007
- Keynote, "Robert Fulton and the Advent of America's Mechanical Age," Fulton Bicentennial Symposium, Bard College, June 1, 2007
- Chair, "Early 20th Century Roots of Terrorism," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Las Vegas, October 13, 2006
- "The Legacy of Robbins & Lawrence and the American System of Manufactures," American Precision Museum, Windsor, VT, August 30, 2006
- Keynote, "The Rise of American Industrial Capitalism in International Context and the Emergence of the American System of Manufacturing," Keynote lecture for *Inventing America/NEH Landmarks Workshops*, Tsongas Center-UMass Lowell, July 10, 26, 31, 2006; also July 30 and August 6, 2007; July 14 and July 28, 2008
- Lecturer and academic coordinator, "The Inventive Foundations of Early American Industrialization," *Teaching American History 2006 Summer Institute*, Boston History Collaborative and Boston Public School System, Boston, June 27-30, 2006
- "Jump-Starting a Revolution: The Role of the Federal Government in Early American Industrial Development," The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Seminar, Sloan School, MIT, May 15, 2006
- "Why the South Lost the Civil War," American Orient Express Tour of the Civil War South, April 8, 2006
- "Grant and Lee as Military Leaders," American Orient Express Tour of the Civil War South, April 8, 2006
- "The Civil War: A Defining Moment in American History," American Orient Express Tour of the Civil War South, Union Station, Washington, D.C., April 6, 2006
- Panelist, "Reconfiguring the American History Survey: How the History of Technology Can Make of Difference," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Minneapolis, Nov. 5, 2005
- "Massachusetts Industry During the Civil War," Bristol Community College Teachers' Institute, Commonwealth Museum (Boston), July 12, 2005
- "The Industrial Revolution in America: A Historiographic Review," Dibner Institute Workshop on the Industrial Revolution, April 2, 2005
- "Technology and the Changing Face of Battle During World War I," Panhandle Area

- Educational Consortium, Florida State University, January 12, 2005
- “What History Can Tell Us About Invention and Creativity,” Invention Assembly, National Academy of Engineering, Washington, D.C., April 23, 2004
- “Teaching History to Undergraduates,” MIT Club of Cape Cod, Sheraton Resort at Hyannis, October 31, 2003
- “The Industrial Revolution in America,” Summer Institute for Middle School Teachers, Tsongas Industrial History Center, Cambridge, MA, August 7, 2003
- “Nineteenth Century Technological Innovations,” Navy Yard Teacher Institute, Boston National Historical Park, Charlestown Navy Yard, July 30, 2003
- “Technology, War, and American Industry, 1861-1890,” American History Institute, Boston History Collaborative, University of Massachusetts-Boston, July 1, 2003
- Moderator and Discussant, “Civil War High Tech: Excavating the Hunley and Monitor,” DeepArch Mini-Symposium on Deep Water Archaeology, Killian Hall, MIT, April 25, 2003 (on video)
- Panelist/presenter, “The Role of Harpers Ferry in the Lewis & Clark Expedition,” Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, March 30, 2003
- “Army Engineers and American Industrialization, 1815-1861,” Department of History, U.S. Military Academy, March 25, 2003
- Organizer and participant, Workshop on Historical Perspectives on Invention and Creativity,” Lemelson-MIT Program, MIT, March 14-16, 2003
- “The American System of Manufactures,” Olin College of Engineering, March 5, 2003
- “Getting Published by an Academic Press,” Science Writing Seminar (Prof. Rob Kanigel), MIT, February 21, 2003
- Presentation (with Pauline Maier), “Enlarging Historical Discourse,” Knight Fellows Program, MIT, February 5, 2003
- Interview (with Pauline Maier), “Midmorning with Katherine Lanpher,” Minnesota Public Radio, January 21, 2003
- Respondent, Dibner Institute Distinguished Lecture by Kenneth Wilson, “Unifying the History of Science and Technology,” Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, December 9, 2002
- Session Chair, “Learning History by Doing History,” Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Toronto, October 19, 2002
- Keynote Address, “Remembrances, Our Key to the Future,” 125th Anniversary Celebration, St. Agnes School, Towanda, PA, October 13, 2002
- Inaugural Address, “Art and Industrialization,” Stonehill Industrial History Center, Stonehill College, June 22, 2002
- Panel Discussant, “Artifacts as Historical Evidence,” Stonehill Industrial History Center, Stonehill College, June 22, 2002
- “A Deadly Invention: The Impact of Rifled Weaponry in the American Civil War,” MIT Alumni and other travelers aboard the Mississippi Queen, May 17, 2002
- “Arming the Union: Springfield Armory and the Northern Small Arms Industry During the American Civil War,” MIT Alumni and other travelers aboard the Mississippi Queen, May 15, 2002
- “Reconfiguring American History: A Preview of Inventing America,” Dillon Ripley Center, Smithsonian Institution, April 12, 2002; also presented at First Baptist Church, Newton

- Centre, MA, April 21, 2002; MIT Author's Series, Wong Auditorium, MIT, April 30, 2002; Knight Fellows Program, MIT, May 2, 2002; Mt. Vernon Museum and Garden, New York City, May 23, 2002; C-SPAN/Chicago Historical Society, August 24, 2002; History Department, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, October 7, 2002
- "Army Engineers and the Industrial Revolution in America," U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY, April 19, 2002
- "War, Technology, and Economy: Rethinking the Origins of the Industrial Revolution in America," Sewall Academic Program Lecture Series, University of Colorado, Boulder, March 13, 2002
- Chair, "State-Sponsored Technologies of Power and Modernity in the Rural Landscape," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, San Jose, CA, October 7, 2001
- "Two Cultures of Innovation," Cambridge/MIT Workshop, University of Cambridge, May 20, 2001
- Keynote speaker, "The Silent Revolution," Edwin A. Battison Symposium, American Precision Museum and Thayer School of Engineering, Dartmouth College, November 6, 2000
- Organizer and panelist, "Reconfiguring American History," Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, January 7, 2000. Also presented at Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, San Jose, CA, October 6, 2001.
- Keynote address, "Our World in 1824," 175th Anniversary Celebration, Founders Day, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, November 6, 1998
- Chair, "Maintaining/Constructing Culture," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Baltimore, MD, October 18, 1998
- "If All the World Was Massachusetts: A Reflection on Peter Temin's "The Industrialization of New England, 1830-1880," New England Economic History Museum Conference, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, October 2, 1998
- Chair, "Technology and Democracy in the Cold War," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Pasadena, CA, October 17, 1997
- Keynote address, "Symposium of `The Industrial Technology History Exhibition - Techno Festa 2," a symposium sponsored by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, The Ministry of Education, and The Japan Research Industries Association, The Pacifico Yokohama (Japan), August 8, 1997
- Chair, "Losing Technological Leadership, or Why Certain Economies Fail to Innovate," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, London, August 3, 1996
- "Firearms and American Industrialization, 1815-1915," Lecture at Meeting of the Arms and Armor Club, New York City, April 25, 1996
- "Military Roots of Mass Production," Lecture for "Windows on MIT" series for MIT Club of Boston, April 22, 1996
- "Does Technology Drive History?" Lecture, MIT Club of Central Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, March 15, 1996
- "Rethinking American History: Making Science and Technology a More Integral Part of the American Experience," Lecture, MIT Club of Northeast Ohio, Cleveland, Ohio, March 14, 1996
- "Landscapes of Change," Phi Alpha Theta Lecture, University of Detroit Mercy,

- February 23, 1996
- "Technology and American Society," Lecture at Department of History, Boston University, January 31, 1996
- "Technology and the Environment in American Landscape Art," Environmental Studies Program, Williams College, September 22, 1995
- "Incorporating Science and Technology into American History Textbooks," The Oakley Center, Williams College, September 21, 1995
- "The Promises and Problems of Technology Studies at M.I.T.," Unit of Technology Assessment, Technical University of Denmark, May 24, 1995
- "Technology in Twentieth-Century American History," Netherlands History of Technology Project (Professor Harry Lintsen, Director), Utrecht, The Netherlands, May 19, 1995
- "Landscapes of Change: Technology and Technological Determinism in American Art, 1790-1930," Netherlands Graduate School in Science, Technology, and Cultural Values, Limburg University, May 18, 1995; also delivered at the Unit of Technology Assessment, Technical University of Denmark, May 23, 1995
- Organizer and Chair, Memorial Session: The Contributions of Edward C. Ezell to the History of Technology," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, October 8, 1994
- Commentator, "Interpreting Industrial History for the Public," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Lowell, MA, October 7, 1994
- "The Military Roots of Mass Production," Keynote Address, Fiftieth Anniversary of the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Harpers Ferry, W. VA, June 30, 1994; also delivered at The California Institute of Technology, January 18, 1995; The Technical University of Denmark, May 29, 1995; and at Williams College, September 20, 1995
- "Recent Trends in the History of Technology in the United States," Science and Technology with a Human Face Joint American-Russian Workshop, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia, June 23, 1994
- "Technology and the American Railroad System," National Park Service/Smithsonian Institution Symposium on Railroad Heritage Preservation: Toward a National Policy, May 16, 1994
- Commentator, "Armed and Dangerous? New Perspectives on Violence in the Early Republic," Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Atlanta, GA, April 13, 1994
- "Technological Determinism in American Culture," Colby College, April 5, 1994; also delivered at the M.I.T. Medical Department Hot Lunch, April 1994
- "Integrating Science and Technology into American History Survey Courses," Colby College, April 5, 1994
- "Firearms and American Industrialization," Massachusetts Historical Society, January 13, 1994; also delivered at Colby College, April 4, 1994
- "The Origins of the American Machine Tool Industry, 1817-1860," Hagley Museum and Library, May 6, 1993
- Organizer and chair, "European Backgrounds to the American System of Manufacturing," Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, March 5-7, 1993
- "The Tenor of Technological Change in Jeffersonian America," Symposium on the

- Changing Contours of Technological Knowledge: The Legacy of Thomas Jefferson and Contemporary Engineering, University of Virginia, February 19, 1993; also delivered at The M.I.T. Museum, February 17, 1994
- Commentator, "Technology and Labor Processes at Paterson, N.J.," William Paterson College, December 6, 1992
- Chair and organizer, "European Roots of the American System of Manufacturing," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Uppsala University (Sweden), August 18, 1992
- "Firearms and American Industrialization," Yale-Smithsonian Seminar on Material Culture, Yale University, May 1, 1992
- Commentator, Old Sturbridge Village Colloquium on Early New England Society and Culture, Sturbridge, MA, March 14, 1992
- "Industry, Technology, and Social Change in 19th-Century America," Program on Science, Technology and Society, Cornell University, March 9, 1992
- "The Industrial Background to the Modern Era," Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts, Connecticut College, November 11, 1991
- Chair, "Work-in-Progress" Session, 1991 Joint Annual Meeting and Conference on Critical Problems and Research Frontiers in the History of Science and Technology, Madison, WI, November 2, 1991
- "Recent Trends in the History of Technology in America," Knight Science Journalism Fellowship Program, MIT, October 17, 1991
- "Technology, Labor, and the Accommodation Problem in Early Industrial America," State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the Departments of History and the History of Science, University of Wisconsin, Madison, May 8, 1991
- "What is the History of Technology?" NSF Pilot Project for Secondary School Teachers, Osgood Conference Center, North Andover, MA, April 20, 1991
- Keynote speaker, Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, October 18, 1990
- "Teaching History from Artifacts," MIT Club of Northern California, Palo Alto, June 4, 1990
- "The Context Initiative at MIT" (with Prof. L. Lidsky), MIT Club of Northern California, Palo Alto, June 5, 1990
- "A Biography of a Gun," Knight Fellowship Program, MIT, May 9, 1990
- "Observations on the Soviet Union," First Baptist Church, Newton Center, MA, April 18, 1990; also presented at the Towanda (PA) Country Club, May 30, 1990
- Commentator, "Changes in the Technological Landscape: The Temporal Dimension of Technological Systems," Boston Colloquium for the Philosophy of Science, Boston University, April 17, 1990
- "The History of Technology in America," History of the Organization of Science Seminar, Institute of the History of Science and Technology, Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Moscow, March 20-21, 1990; Leningrad, March 23, 1990
- Organizer and chair, "Machines and History: the Problem of Technological Determinism," Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology Workshop, MIT, December 2-3, 1989
- "Technology and Social Change in the Early American Industrial Revolution," Franklin Lecture Series, Auburn University, November 16, 1989
- Chair, "The Landscape as Register of Technological Change," 32nd Annual Meeting of the

- Society for the History of Technology, Sacramento, CA, October 14, 1989
- "The State of the History of Technology in America," The National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan, July 24, 1989; also delivered at The National Science Museum, Tokyo, Japan, July 16, 1989
- "A Mechanical Age: Technology and Industrialization in Nineteenth-Century America," Ishikawa Prefectural Museum, Kanazawa, Japan, July 22, 1989; also delivered at Kanazawa Institute of Technology, Kanazawa, Japan, July 20, 1989
- "Technology and War," Kanazawa Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan, July 17, 1989
- Chair, "Writing the History of Mission-Oriented Research and Its Problems," Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, Brandeis University, June 13, 1989
- "Tacit and Explicit Agendas in the Historiography of Technology," Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, Brandeis University, June 12, 1989
- "From Household Crafts to the Factory System: Fabrics and Firearms," American Studies/NEH Summer Institute for Teachers, Tufts University, June 12, 1989
- "Paternalism Along the Brandywine: Labor-Management Relations at DuPont, 1803-1890," Conference on Early American Technology--A Mid-Atlantic Perspective, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, May 13, 1989
- Commentator, "Artifacts and Contexts," History from Things: A Conference on the Use of Objects for Understanding the Past, Smithsonian Institution, April 11, 1989
- Commentator, "Manufacturing and Marketing Mechanical Innovations," 35th Business History Conference, Harvard Business School, April 1, 1989
- "Labor-Management Relations in Early Industrial Communities," Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, February 27, 1989
- "A Mechanical Age," The Philadelphia Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, February 10, 1989
- "Becoming Engineers, 1820-1850," School of Social Science, Georgia Institute of Technology, January 21, 1988
- "The Emergence of Early Engineering Culture: The United States, 1820-1870," Department of History and STS Program, University of Illinois, November 18, 1987
- Commentator, "Industrialization of the Soviet Union," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Boston, November 5, 1987
- Commentator, "Military Institutions and the Shaping of Technical Learning Since the Industrial Revolution," Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Raleigh, NC, October 31, 1987
- "The State of Military Technology Studies in America," Department of History, Oslo University, October 8, 1987
- "Science, Technology and Society Studies at M.I.T.," Nordic Center for Innovation, Roskilde University (Denmark), October 7, 1987; also delivered to the STS Faculty, University of Illinois, November 19, 1987
- "Technology in American Society," American Studies/NEH Summer Institute for Teachers, Tufts University, July 15, 1987
- Commentator, "Does Improved Technology Mean Progress?" Technology and Society Project, University of Maine, April 14, 1987
- "The 'Character' of Technological Innovation in Antebellum America," Technology and Society Project, University of Maine, April 13, 1987. Also delivered to the Department of History, Trondheim University (Norway), October 7, 1987; and Tekniska Museet,

- Stockholm (Sweden), October 9, 1987
- "The Idea of Progress in American History and Its Relationship to Industrialization," First Baptist Church, Newton Centre, MA, April 12 and 26, 1987
- "The Sharps Rifle and the Industrial Revolution in America," Mather House, Harvard University, March 19, 1987
- Chair and commentator, "Technological Innovation and the Labor Process: The Deskilling Thesis and the European Context," 29th Annual Meeting, Society for the History of Technology, Pittsburgh, PA October 26, 1986
- "Contextual Contrasts: Recent Trends in the History of Technology," Management in the 1990s Seminar, Sloan School, MIT, October 3, 1986
- "The Making of Early Engineering Culture in America," Institut for Samfundsfag, Danish Technical University, Lyngby, September 4, 1986; also presented at the Research Policy Institute, University of Lund (Sweden), September 3, 1986 and the Department of the History of Science, Harvard University, November 21, 1986; and Departments of History and Engineering Science, Loyola College (MD), March 5, 1987
- "Military or Civilian Funding of R & D: What Difference Does It Make?" Hogskolesenteret i Rogaland, Stavanger, Norway, September 1, 1986
- "Educating Future Industry Leaders: The History of Technology in Engineering Education at MIT," Hogskolesenteret i Rogaland, September 1, 1986
- "How to Interpret Technology in a Cultural Framework," Workshop on Contemporary Technology in Its Historical Context, Nordic Center for Innovation, Copenhagen, Denmark, August 28, 1986
- "Technological Change: An Historical Perspective," American Ceramic Society meeting, Chicago, IL, April 30, 1986
- Panelist, "Science, Technology, and the Military," 13th Annual Joint Atlantic Seminar, Harvard University, April 26, 1986
- Chair and commentator, "Technology, Management, and Labor in the United States," American Historical Association, New York, NY, December 30, 1985
- Speaker, Air Force Systems Command History Conference, Hanscom AFB, MA, November 8, 1985
- "Scientific Management in Action," 28th Annual Meeting, Society for the History of Technology, The Edison Institute, October 19, 1985
- "Technology and Progress: Some Social Implications," 21st Annual Nobel Conference, Gustavus Adolphus College, October 1, 1985
- Commentator, "Technological Style," International Congress of the History of Science, University of California, Berkeley, August 5, 1985
- "Modernization in America: An Overview," Committee on Scholarly Communication with the People's Republic of China (National Research Council), Airlie House, VA, July 8, 1985
- "The Rise of the American Arms Bazaar, 1865-1885," National Academy of Education, Spring meeting, Harvard University, May 17, 1985; also presented to the Department of History, Cornell University, April 9, 1986
- "Technology and Labor in the Industrial Revolution," Clarke Historical Library, Central Michigan University, March 29, 1985
- Guest speaker, Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, March 25, 1985

- Guest speaker, Office of Air Force History, Bolling AFB, January 28, 1985
"The Social Background of the Industrial Revolution in America," History Department, Georgetown University, January 24, 1985
- Guest speaker, U.S. Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, PA, November 8, 1984
- Guest speaker, Department of History, The Ohio State University, November 7, 1984
"America's First Industrial Revolution: Meanings for the Second?" Ohio Historical Society, November 7, 1984
- "Where is the History of Technology Heading?" National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, October 24, 1984
- Guest speaker, Seminar on American Social and Political History, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, February 17, 1984
- Guest speaker, Fondazione Giangiacomo Feltrinelli, Milan (Italy), June 7, 1983
- Guest speaker, History of Technology Seminar, Royal Institute of Technology Library, Stockholm (Sweden), May 16, 1983
- Guest speaker, Gothenburg Historical Society, Gothenburg (Sweden), May 3, 1983
- Guest speaker, Department of History, Gothenburg University, May 3, 1983
- Guest speaker, Center for Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, (Sweden), April 12, 1983
- Guest speaker, Program in the History of Science, Uppsala University, April 11, 1983
"Military Enterprise and Technological Change," a four-part seminar presented to the Department of Technology and Social Change, Linköping University, Linköping (Sweden), Spring Semester 1983
- "Perspectives on Innovation and Technology: The Connecticut Valley and the 'American System' of Manufacturing," M.I.T. Sloan Foundation Seminar, Mt. Holyoke College, February 25, 1983
- Commentator, History of Energy Conference, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA, October 1, 1982
- "Technological Literacy and Technological History," Council for Understanding Technology in Human Affairs Workshop, University of Maryland, June 14, 1982
- Guest speaker, Laboratory for Manufacturing and Productivity, M.I.T., March 18, 1982
- Guest speaker, ASME Chapter, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Northeastern University, May 27, 1982
- Commentator, Conference on Science in the Old South, Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi, March 27, 1982
- Guest speaker, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Princeton University, December 11, 1981
- Guest speaker, Department of History of Science, Harvard University, November 20, 1981
- Guest speaker, Institute for the History of Ideas and Central Committee for Norwegian Research, University of Oslo, May 21, 1981
- Guest speaker, Royal Institute of Technology, (Stockholm), May 15, 1981
- Guest speaker, Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (Stockholm), May 14, 1981
- Guest speaker, Centrum for Teknikhistoria, Chalmers University of Technology (Gothenburg), May 13, 1981
- Commentator, "History Museums, Material Culture, and Historical Research," Organization of American Historians, Detroit, April 2, 1981

- Guest speaker, Department of Humanities, Drexel University, February 17, 1981
- Panelist, "The Uses of History in Policy Analysis and Strategic Planning," American Association for the Advancement of Science, Toronto, January 6, 1981
- Chair, "Doctoral Research in the History of Technology," Society for the History of Technology, Toronto, October 17, 1980
- "Technology and Traditional Humanities," Council for Understanding Technology in Human Affairs Workshop, M.I.T., June 26, 1980; also read at a similar workshop at Chatham College, Pittsburgh, June 9, 1981
- Guest speaker, Department of Economics, Amherst College, March 13, 1980
- Guest speaker, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Institute of Technology, University of Minnesota, November 7-8, 1979
- Panelist, "An Historiographic Revolution: Two Books on Early American Industrial Communities," Society for the History of Technology, Newark, N.J. October 18, 1979
- Chair, "Edison Symposium: Ecce Homo - The Man and the Myth," Society for the History of Technology and the New Jersey Historical Commission, Newark, N.J., October 20, 1979
- Participant, Manufacturing Studies Board Planning Session and Air Force Manufacturing Technology Program, National Research Council, Assembly of Engineering, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C., July 26-27, 1979
- "Two Cultures in Conflict," Conference on "Soldiers and Civilians" in military history, National Archives, Washington, D.C., May 17-18, 1979
- Participant, Daedalus conference on technology, Harvard University, April 30, 1979
- Participant, Conference on "Critical Issues in the History of Technology," Society for the History of Technology and National Science Foundation, Roanoke, VA, August 14-18, 1978
- Guest speaker, Division of Interdisciplinary Studies and Program in the History of Science and Technology, Case Western Reserve University, March 29, 1978
- Guest speaker, Technology Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, March 22, 1978
- "Military Managers and the American System of Manufacturing," Conference on the "Rise of the American System," Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., March 16-18, 1978
- Guest speaker, Department of History and Applied Research Laboratory, The Pennsylvania State University, September 29-30, 1977
- Commentator, "Social Change in Early Industrial Communities," Regional Economic History Research Center Conference, Greenville, DE, May 6, 1977
- "Jacksonian Era Relations Between Government and Technology: A Retrospective Technology Assessment," American Association for the Advancement of Science, Denver, CO, February 21, 1977
- Andrew Mellon Lecturer, Humanities Perspectives on Technology Program, Lehigh University, January 28, 1977
- Commentator, "Museums of Technology and the Teaching of History," Society for the History of Technology, Philadelphia meeting, December 28, 1976
- Guest speaker, Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, OH, November 11, 1976
- Chair, "Problems in the Social Studies of Science," Society for Social Studies of Science, Cornell University meeting, November 6, 1976

- Guest speaker, Departments of History and Physics, Miami University, Oxford, OH,
October 21, 1976
- "Regional Perspectives on Technological Change," Eleutherian Mills Library,
August 24, 1976
- "Eli Whitney and the American System," Radio Interview, Voice of America,
August 6, 1976
- "Technology and the American Dream," The Thomas Alvin Boyd Lecture, College of
Engineering, The Ohio State University, May 14, 1976
- Multi-media presentation on "The Transportation Revolution and the Transformation of
19th-Century American Society" (with Professors M. Blackford and A. Kerr of The
Ohio State University), 42nd Annual Meeting, Ohio Academy of History, Columbus,
April 5, 1975; also presented at the Business History Conference, Moline, IL, March 13,
1976
- "The Machine in America: Some Tentative Observations," History & Sociology of Science
Workshop, The University of Pennsylvania, February 23, 1976
- Chair, "Work-in-Progress" session, Society for the History of Technology, Smithsonian
Institution meeting, October 19, 1975
- Guest speaker, Institute of Technology, University of Minnesota, March 13, 1974
- Commentator, "The History of Science and the History of Technology in the Undergraduate
Curriculum," History of Science Society and Society for the History of Technology, San
Francisco meeting, December 27, 1973
- "Aspects of Science and Technology in the 19th Century," 8th Annual History of Science
Meeting, The Ohio Academy of Science, Columbus, March 3, 1973
- "From Craftsman to Mechanic, 1800-1855," The Henry du Pont Winterthur Museum, DE,
March 29, 1973
- "John H. Hall, Simeon North, and the Nature of Innovation Among 19th Century
Armsmakers," American Historical Association and Society for the History of
Technology, New York meeting, December 30, 1971
- "Cultural Traditions and Technological Change at the Harpers Ferry Armory," Eleutherian
Mills-Hagley Foundation, Conference on Technology, Greenville, DE,
October 31, 1969
- "Technological Development at the Harpers Ferry Armory," Department of Technology and
Science, Smithsonian Institution, November 11, 1968

SUBJECTS TAUGHT AT M.I.T.:

- STS 001 Technology in American History
- STS 013J (with Professor Louis Smullin) Automation, Robotics, and Unemployment
(context subject)
- STS.025 Making the Modern World: The Industrial Revolution in Global Perspective
- STS 029J The Civil War and Reconstruction
- STS.050 The History of MIT (with Professor David Mindell)
- STS 095 (with Professor Loren Graham) Social and Political Implications of Technology

- STS 101 (with Professor Loren Graham) Proseminar in the History of Science and Technology
- STS 102 Science, Technology, and Social Change
- STS 114J (with Professor Pauline Maier) The Culture and Society of Early Industrial America
- STS 117 Technology and Management in the Industrial Revolution
- STS 202 (with Professors Peter Buck and Loren Graham) Graduate Seminar in the History of Science and Technology
- STS 275 History of Manufacturing in America
- STS 300 History of Technology in America I: 1787-1876
- STS 301 History of Technology in America II: 1876-Present
- STS 310J Industrialization and Cultural Change in 19th-Century America
- STS 321 Military Enterprise and Technological Change
- STS 340 Introduction to the History of Technology
- STS 402 (with Professor Leon Trilling) Society and Innovation
- STS 424 Classics in the History of Technology
- STS 433 Technology, War, and the American Experience
- STS 462 Social & Political Implications of New Technologies (a PoET seminar)
- STS 465 Research Seminar in the History of Technology
- STS 466 Research Seminar in the History of Technology
- STS 602 (with Professor Leo Marx) Perspectives on Technology
- 21H.101J (with Professor Pauline Maier) American History to 1865

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS SUPERVISED:

- Tom Crouch (Ohio State)
- John Lozier (Ohio State)
- Amos Loveday (Ohio State)
- Colleen Dunlavy (MIT)
- Lindy Biggs (MIT)
- Ken Alder (Harvard)
- Brian O'Donnell (MIT)
- George O'Har (MIT)
- David Mindell (MIT)
- Greg Clancey (MIT)
- Rob Martello (MIT)
- Greg Galer (MIT)
- Linda Endersby (MIT)
- Ben Pinney (MIT)
- David Lucsko (MIT)
- Jamie Pietruska (MIT)

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE SERVICE:

David A. Hounshell (University of Delaware, 2nd reader)
Michael Steifel (MIT, 2nd reader)
Sarah Wermeil (MIT, 2nd reader)
Alan Yale (University of Connecticut, 2nd reader)
Jennifer Mnookin (MIT, 3rd reader)
Karin Ellison (MIT, general examination committee and 2nd reader)
Brendan Foley (MIT, general examination and 2nd reader)
Timothy Wolters (MIT, general examination and 2nd reader)
Shane Hamilton (MIT, general examination committee and 2nd reader)
Alexander Brown (MIT, general examination committee and dissertation 2nd reader)
Kath Phelan (DUSP/MIT, general examination and 3rd reader)
Marti J. Frank (Harvard, 3rd reader)
Kieran Downes (MIT, general examination committee and dissertation 2nd reader)
Shirley Hung (PoET/Political Science/MIT, dissertation committee 2nd reader)
David Unger (Harvard, general examination committee and dissertation reader)
Jon Lindsay (PoET/Political Science/MIT)
Katherine Dykes (PoET/ESD/MIT, dissertation committee)
Shekhar Krishnan (MIT, general examination committee)
Rebecca Perry (MIT, general examination committee)
