

The Design History Society AGM Report 2016

Charitable Incorporated
Organisation: 1155117,
registered January 2014,
operational April 2014

Trustees' and Officers' Reports
Annual General Meeting
September 2016

School of Art & Design,
Middlesex University, London



**Annual General Meeting
Report 2016**

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DHS Trustee Reports

Chair's Introduction: 2015-16

Unusually, this report to the 2016 AGM summarises the achievements of the Design History Society over the past eighteen months. In an effort to align the reporting year with the financial year of Oxford University Press and present the reports to the Annual General Meeting of the Society in a timely fashion, exceptionally, this reporting period has been extended beyond the usual 12-month cycle. The Trustee members of the Executive Committee report their activities below and together they describe in detail the performance of the DHS to carry out our objectives to support and promote the teaching of, and study and research in design history and to disseminate scholarship, research and teaching and learning in design history in the UK and internationally across our membership and the wider design history constituency. On this occasion, as well as the individual reports from each officer, several Trustees present in summary their strategic goals. These have been identified through discussion at Trustee meetings in recent months, and will now be subject of a more extended away-day discussion before becoming markers to direct the activities of the Board of Trustees in the coming years. We welcome members' comments and thoughts on these, both at the AGM and beyond.

This report represents my second as the Chair of the Society, a role I took on in January 2015. A major highlight during this time was the Society's first Annual conference held in the USA in September 2015. Members will note that the Society made a significant financial commitment to take the conference to San Francisco in the belief that it represented an important strategic development building on previous international initiatives. Aply assisted by the conference host Barry Katz, Professor of Design at Stanford University and California College of the Arts and his team, along with Dr Sally Anne Huxtable, former DHS Conference Liaison Officer, the conference was deemed a great success. It offered opportunities for the DHS to engage with widened audiences, building further networks of exchange. One notable outcome was the invitation from the College Art Association for the DHS to become an

affiliated society member. Starting in February 2017, this will offer the opportunity for the Society to convene a panel at the CAA annual conference, held alternately in New York and another major US city.

We now look forward to the 2016 Annual Conference, Design and Time hosted by Middlesex University and organised by Professor Anne Massey and Zoe Hendon.

The reporting year has been particularly significant for the Journal. Professor Cheryl Buckley stepped down from her role as Chair of the Editorial Board having served in this capacity for the extended period of 2011 until June 2016. Cheryl's considerable commitment to the Society and its activities covered the past decade during which time she was Chair of the Society between 2006 and 2009, then a co-opted member of the Editorial Board appointed for her fashion expertise from 2009 and 2011, before taking on position of editorial Chair. Her time as EB Chair saw the smooth adoption of Scholar One electronic management system, the introduction of the highly successful virtual special issues and an ever-increasing international dimension to the work of the Society. I am certain I represent all Trustee and Editorial Board members, as well as the wider Society membership, in thanking Cheryl for this substantial contribution. We now welcome Professor Penny Sparke as the new Chair of the Journal Editorial Board and very much look forward to working with her in the role and benefitting from her wealth of experience in our discipline.

Among other changes during the past year, we welcomed newly appointed trustees Dr Leah Armstrong as Treasurer, Dr Harriet Atkinson as Research Grant Officer and Dr Portia Ungley as Conference Liaison Officer. We also said farewell to Betsy Lewis-Holmes as Student Representative and Dr Livia Rezende who stepped down as Treasurer in January 2016. We are most appreciative of Livia's hard work in ensuring the financial health of the Society continued. Finally, we welcome our first two student ambassadors, Zara Arshad and Janine Barker who have already made impact in enhancing the Society's social media presence.

Structure, governance and management

Since November 2014, the Society has been registered with the Charity Commission under the listing as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, number: 1155117. Transfer of the Society's assets to the CIO, including key assets such as our membership of the DHS-OUP publishing contract was completed with due consideration for data protection and to maintain the same terms of partnership with OUP. The Society's Constitution remains unchanged from 2014 and is available from the DHS website (http://www.designhistorysociety.org/about/charitable_incorporated_organisation_/index.html); this document sets out in detail the structure, governance and management of all aspects of the Society. The Executive Committee comprises 9 members: 8 Trustees (of which Chair and Treasurer are Honorary Officers) and 1 Student Representative (not a Trustee), and meets quarterly; during 2015-16, the level of meeting attendance was 75% or more. At Executive Committee meetings, the members agree the broad strategy and areas of activity for the Society, including grants and awards making, financial status, reserves, risk management and performance and achievements; week-week administration is delegated to the Society Administrator. The Chair of the DHS and the Chair of the JDH Editorial Board address fiscal and partnership matters with OUP regarding the Journal of Design History. The strategic management of the JDH is delegated to the Chair of the Editorial Board (a Trustee), to lead the board, which comprises the Chair of the DHS (ex-officio) and further appointed members: a Managing Editor to manage the peer reviews system, a Reviews Editor and other editors. The Editorial Board meets twice a year and the two Chairs and the Managing and Reviews Editors meet with our publishers annually: again these meetings facilitate the agreement of broad strategy and areas of activity for the JDH. As volunteers, the Editorial Board is highly valued and the Executive Committee seeks to support their work for the Society. A summary prepared by the Chair of the Editorial Board is presented at Executive Committee Meetings. Executive Committee members and Editorial Board members

are required to disclose all relevant interests and, in accordance with the DHS constitution, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

I continue to be aware of the extraordinary commitment and level of engagement that all Trustees and Editorial Board members show and thanks go to everyone. These efforts would not be realised without the support of Michaela Young, the Society's administrator, whose dedicated professionalism and patience are reflected in all that she does for the Journal and Society.

Looking ahead, as we approach two notable landmarks in our collective history, 40 years of the Society and 30 years of the Journal, we anticipate marking these anniversaries by special events and sharing these with our members during the year to come.

Professor Jeremy Aynsley, Chair, September 2016

Incoming Resources	Amount (in pounds)
Incoming resources from generated funds	
Investment income	220
Incoming resources from charitable activities	
Publication	136,634
Dissemination	1,676
Total incoming resources	136,530
Resources Expended*	Amount (in pounds)
Charitable activities	
Study (incl. T&L event, Student essay prize & Student travel award)	7,103
Research (incl. Research Grant, Strategic Res. Grant, Research Publication Grant, Research Exhibition Grant, Research Travel & Conference Grant, Oral History Project)	12,942
Dissemination (incl. Banham Lectures, Conference Expenditure, Keynote Speakers, Website, Day Symposia)	44,124
Publication (Ed. Board expenses, JDH Translations)	7,307
Outreach (Outreach and promotion costs)	2,400
Governance costs (incl. Trustee's and JDH expenses for meetings)	48,092
Total resources expended	121,968
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	14,562
Other recognised gains/losses	n/a
Assets transferred from unincorporated charity	114,276
Net movement in funds	128,838
Total funds carried forward	128,838

**In order to comply with the norms that regulate CIO accounts, please note that Support Costs (Rent, Administration Costs, Bank Charges, Stationary and Equipment, Postage and Packaging, and Legal and Professional Fees) have been equally distributed among and added to charitable activities costs.*

Treasurer Report for the Financial Period 1 January 2015 – 30 June 2016

This report covers the financial year reported to and independently examined by Stephen Anderson, Knox Cropper Chartered Accountants. It comprises an 18-month period, from 1 January 2015 to 30 June 2016. This is an exceptional financial period adjusted by the Board of Trustees to allow the Society to synchronise its income cycle with the annual reporting cycle, since incoming payments from OUP to the Society are effective in June of each year. Next year, the financial period will comprise of 12 months (1 July 2016- 30 June 2017).

The Society's total income for the 2015/16 period (18 months) was £136,530. Income for the last financial period 1 April 2014-31 December 2014 (9 months) was £58, 831. Our total expenditure for the 2015/6 financial year (18 months) was £121,968. Total expenditure for the last financial period 1 April 2014-31 December 2014 (9 months) was £46,273.

The 2015/16 financial period of 18 months includes two incoming publication payments, one of £67,491 in June 2015 and another of £67,106 in June 2016. Taking this into account, 2015/16 shows an increased level of income generated since the previous period. Despite this being a longer accounting period than previous, the majority of the Society's costs have, on a pro-rata basis, remained consistent with the previous period. The only exception to this was in respect of conference expenses, which nearly trebled from the previous period. This is due to the costs associated with holding a conference in San Francisco, in accordance with the Society's internationalization strategy. This also explains the reduction in net incoming resources (excluding the assets transferred from unincorporated charity), which were £12,558 in the last financial period compared to £14,562 in the previous period.

The total funds carried forward from June 2015 to July 2016 were £128,838. This sum includes monies kept in the Society's reserve savings account. Between March and June 2015, a sum of £12,000 was transferred from the savings account to the current account to meet expenses relating to the DHS Conference in San Francisco, in accordance with the Society's reserves policy. No further monies have been withdrawn from the

savings account since then and it is not anticipated that the Society will need to do so in the near future.

DHS Reserve Policy

As governed by the Charity Commission, the DHS has to strike a balance between spending its income on its charitable aims and keeping monies in reserve to enable the Society to expand according to its future plans and to sustain the Society's core activities in the event of the loss of income. Future plans include but are not limited to, for example, the organization of annual conferences abroad in line with the Society's plans for internationalization of Design History. The reserves policy is reviewed annually by the Treasurer.

The Treasurer recommends a reserves policy to equate to one year's full expenditure, which is approximately £60,000. It is anticipated that the Society will be in a better position to assess its annual expenditure by the end of the next financial year, when the reserves policy will again be reviewed.

The DHS has two bank accounts, a Barclays Community Current Account and Barclay's Active Saver Account, where the DHS reserves are kept. The balances in the Society's account at the end of this 18-month financial period in 2016 were as follows:

Barclay's Community Current Account

£76, 236.42

Barclay's Active Saver Account

£54,176.47

The schedule to the statement of financial activities, as prepared by the Society's accountant, can be made available to members. If you would like a copy, please contact the Society's administrator Michaela Young at: designhistorysociety@gmail.com

Dr. Leah Armstrong, Treasurer, September 2016

Journal Report

The *Journal of Design History* (JDH) is owned by the Design History Society (DHS). Founded in 1988, it has been published since then by Oxford University Press (OUP) under a five-year renewable contract that agrees equal profit share between OUP and the DHS. This year's volume is number 29 (which means we will be celebrating the publication of our 30th volume next year in 2017). Four issues are published annually (www.oxfordjournals.org/jdh). The profits generated by the JDH are used to promote study and research in the history of design, both in the UK and internationally.

I have recently taken over the role of Chair of the Editorial Board (EB) of the JDH (June 1st 2016) from Professor Cheryl Buckley, who had held that position since 2011. Thanks are extended to Cheryl for all her hard work over five years. The Managing Editor, Dr Grace Lees-Maffei, also in place since 2011, will remain in post until next June to ensure continuity of the management of the journal, for which we are very grateful. A new book reviews editor, Dr Sarah Lichtman was appointed in January 2016 while another new board member, Zoe Hendon was taken on in March 2016 to cover the area of archives, collections and curation. In the upcoming year two board members will come to the end of their five-year appointments and new members will be taken on to replace them. There is also a possibility that the membership will be expanded to ensure adequate coverage of the Society's wide subject remit.

I am delighted to have been appointed to the Chair of the EB. I have been involved with the subject of Design History for over 40 years, having taught the subject at the University of Brighton (then, Brighton Polytechnic); the Royal College of Art; and Kingston University. My vision for the JDH is to maintain the very high standards that have been established over the years; to continue to publish both special and general issues; to represent both the full spectrum of the discipline and its ever widening international scope; and to maintain chronological breadth.

2015 saw the publication of a special issue, 'Between Avant-Garde and Commercialism: Reconsidering

Emigrés and Design', guest edited by Henning Engelke and Tobias Hochscherf (28.1). The other three 2015 issues were general ones which included a wide chronological, geographical and intellectual range of design historical scholarship. The first issue of Volume 29 was also a special issue; entitled, 'Design Dispersed', it was guest-edited by Pauline Garvey and Adam Drazin.

Our OUP publisher is now Grace Ranola and the first annual meeting with her took place in June 2016. OUP's 2016 *Publisher's Report* outlines a number of positive developments that took place in 2015. These include the facts that:

- A dedicated landing page for virtual special issues has been created: http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/design/virtual_special_issues.html
- So far in 2016 JDH has 2,246 consortia subscriptions, 2.5% above the 2015 total
- A fair proportion of the top-cited articles were published in Special Issues which suggests that they are interesting and useful to readers
- Full-text downloads increased by 4% in 2015 to 44,472
- Some JDH articles are being picked up by blogs
- JDH's site will be hosted on OUP's new online platform – the result of a new relationship with Silverchair Information Systems - from early 2017

We look forward to a successful anniversary year for the JDH in 2017.

Professor Penny Sparke, Editorial Chair, Journal of Design History, September 2016

Student Representative's Report

The student travel award continues to be popular, receiving seventeen applications in 2015 and twelve in 2016. Many congratulations to all students awarded funding to support their research visits. The diverse range of students' research demonstrates how history of design continues to extend its boundaries, both thematically and geographically.

Across 2015-6, the student travel award supported research in:

- The Theo Crosby archive at the University of Brighton Design Archive.
- The wallpaper archives at the Cooper Hewitt museum.
- Art and design museums in Perth, Inverness and Aberdeen.
- The Danish National Business Archives.
- The archives of the Country Music Hall of Fame.
- The Transgender Archives at the University of Victoria in Canada.
- Archives relating to modern graphic design practice in Beirut in the 1960s and 1970s.
- The Utility Clothing Collection at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the Utility clothing collection at Lasell College, Boston.
- Espirit Ecollection (for interviews), Melinda Houlard papers at Fresno State and Stewart Brand papers at Stanford.
- Archives at the Smithsonian, including supporting attendance at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies conference in Georgia, to present and chair the panel 'Centering on the Peripheral: Design Histories of Home Media Networks.'

- Nancy McClelland archive at Cooper Hewitt museum, Mattie E. Hewitt photographic archive, Peabody Essex Museum (Massachusetts), Cushing Archive (Boston) and Winterthur House and Museum (Delaware).

As outgoing student representative, I wish the Society all the best as it continues to flourish and attract students from many disciplines.

Betsy Lewis-Holmes, Student Representative, July 2016

Membership and Outreach Report

As of July 2016, there are 196 members of the Design History Society. 175 are paying members, broken down as follows: 8 institutions, 65 students, 11 seniors, and 91 at the standard individual rate. 21 members are non-paying members, meaning that they are either DHS prize winners or belong to the Advisory Board.

Our membership continues to reflect our global profile; currently our members are based in the following countries: United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Republic of Ireland, nearly all countries in Scandinavia and Western Europe (with especially strong numbers in Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Spain), Slovenia, Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, India, Singapore, and Taiwan. We have continued to gain new members who are not university academics, including a number of curators and design practitioners, which speaks to our objective of being an inclusive society.

I am pleased to announce that following discussions with North American colleagues at last year's DHS conference at California College of the Arts, the DHS has now become an affiliate society of the College Art Association (CAA). This will allow the DHS to convene a panel at the CAA annual conference, and will hopefully result in greater international collaboration as design history is expanding as a discipline outside of the UK.

We have supported one Day Symposium this year. 'Transnational Textiles: New Perspectives' was organised by Dr Elizabeth Kramer at Northumbria University, and took place on 27 November 2015. It was a highly successful event, reaching its maximum booking capacity and spawning a special issue of *Textile: The Journal of Cloth and Culture* (forthcoming). We welcome and encourage all members to submit proposals; there is no deadline, but applications must be received three months before the event date. Please contact myself or Michaela Young with any queries.

Our public outreach programme continued to gain momentum this year. Our first outreach event outside of London took place at Colours May Vary in Leeds on 16 October 2015, in conjunction with an exhibition

of recent work by designer and photographer Peter Mitchell. The theme of the night was Quarry Hill Flats, with a screening of the film *Half a Lifetime* (courtesy of the Yorkshire Film Archive), and a lively slide talk by Mitchell on his work documenting Quarry Hill Flats in the 1970s, among many other things. Following Peter's talk, audience members had some fascinating conversations about local and design history. DHS Trustee Dr Maya Oppenheimer also organised an outreach event that took place at Cowcross Street on 30 March 2016. Hosted by food and design historian Jane Levi, 'Tasting the Table' proved to be an extremely successful event, and attracted many non-members to the activities of the DHS. Based on the positive reception of our events this year, we have now launched the DHS Outreach & Events Grant, which provides assistance for DHS members to convene a public event to promote design history beyond a traditional academic setting. As with the Day Symposium award, there is no deadline; however, we do ask that applications be submitted three months in advance of the event date.

In my outreach role, I have attended several meetings organised by CHEAD over the past year and a half. Most recently, I participated in a CHEAD Links Network workshop at Ravensbourne, where members of diverse subject associations in Art, Design and Media met to discuss growing challenges in the sector based on current developments in UK government policy. The DHS will continue to contribute to these important discussions, particularly with respect to the National Provision and the role of design history in contextual studies for practice-based degree programmes.

Strategic Goals:

1. Day Symposia and Outreach Events: These awards give our members a unique opportunity to organise Design History-related research and public events. Over my next term, I would like to see more applications come in for these. Trustee-organised outreach events can be a good form of additional income (as in the case of the Quarry Hill film/talk and Tasting the Table), and they

attract new (often non-academic) audiences to the DHS.

2. Relations with schools: Forming relationships with schoolteachers is critical to the future of Design History, especially at the undergraduate level. Over the next year, I would like to see us host an open networking event for schoolteachers (perhaps even organise a study day for teachers as the AAH has done recently), and think about producing some sort of teaching and learning resource for use in secondary schools (something along the lines of the AAH's textbook *Thinking About Art* would require substantial funding, so perhaps we could focus on creating an online resource).
3. Relations with other societies: Engaging with other societies is important for the intellectual development and public profile of Design History. Over the next year, I would like to organise some collaborative outreach events with other societies based at Cowcross Street.
4. Membership: Over my next term, I would like to see a better sustained membership base. Our membership peaks just before the annual conference, but this is late in the year, and at a time when individuals have already missed out on a number of awards deadlines. One way of tackling this might be to host a DHS holiday party in December at which membership can be renewed, or by hosting a DHS open day in early January.

*Dr Sabrina Rahman, Membership and Outreach Officer,
September 2016*

Communications Report

Over the past year I have continued to manage all aspects of Design History Society's communications: updating the DHS website, publishing the quarterly newsletter, and assisting in various DHS activities as and when necessary. It has been over a year since the new DHS site was introduced and with some tweaking it has settled to become an excellent platform for the distribution of information, promotion of the society and engagement with our members.

I am happy to report that the previous year has brought some exciting developments in communications for the DHS. Since the last Annual General Meeting I have been working to introduce 2 DHS Ambassadors. The DHS ambassadorship role was discussed amongst the Executive Committee and introduced in order to a) promote the society through social media and encourage traffic to the DHS site, and b) to generate content for the DHS blog and encourage online discussion & debate.

The advert was launched in February of this year, we had a number of applicants and I am very pleased to introduce the two successful applicants: Zara Arshad and Janine Barker, both of whom bring writing, research and social media experience to the DHS. They have made a fantastic start, gaining a strong and growing following on social media and ensuring the blog is updated with regular content.

It has been part of my role to manage the ambassadors, introduce them to the workings of the DHS and produce editorial guidelines that tie in with my long-term strategic goals for the DHS blog to be outlined shortly. If anyone has any questions about the specifics of the DHS ambassador role I would be happy to answer them either at the AGM or following it.

In the future, I believe we will look to increase the number of DHS ambassadors, and perhaps seek out individuals with skills in areas of photography and video making to increase the ways in which the society can interact with its members.

Strategic Goals

These strategic goals outline my ambitions for the following year:

1. **Increase online discussion on the DHS blog:** The DHS blog has primarily been a digital publishing platform for reports from winners of DHS awards and grants. It is my objective to grow the blog into a digital space for more in-depth features, member submissions and online discussion and debate.

Steps have already been made in working towards this aim. The ability to add comments to blog posts has recently been introduced, and part of the role of the DHS ambassadors is to generate content and employ a mode of writing that will encourage online discussion.

I wanted to take this opportunity to address all of you as DHS members, to ask and encourage you to get in contact, to submit content, and to get involved in the potential digital conversations that could be had around the content of the DHS blog, and to make this a space where questions can be raised and debates had, in perhaps a less formal manner than the pages of the JDH.

2. **Improving the Legacy of the Annual DHS Conference:** I have had numerous conversations with members of the Exec regarding the legacy of the Annual DHS Conference. We consider, at present, this legacy is somewhat limited. Conferences have only led to publications on an irregular basis in the past and this risks the incredible content that is presented being available after the event for those who attended and the wider design history community.

Attempts have been made recently to record sessions and keynote speakers but technical issues prevented these from being usable. I am happy to report that this year's keynotes will be recorded and made available to view online.

I am also happy to report that preparations are underway for conference proceedings to be published and sold annually, beginning with next years conference in Oslo.

I hope that these steps will ensure that the annual conference can have a wider and more lasting impact on the field. And that the content delivered here can be accessible as a resource for the researchers, educators and learners of the design history community and beyond.

- 3. **DHS Branding:** My final aim is ensure greater clarity and consistency for the DHS brand identity. The DHS brand has been updated recently with the introduction of the new website. I have implemented this new visual identity in the design of the Annual General Meeting Report but there is more to be done: Including greater clarity over the use of the various DHS brand colours, and the creation of DHS branding guidelines and conference branding guidelines.

The DHS Social network presence is as follows:

	Members/ Followers 2014	Members/ Followers 2015
Facebook DHS Group:	743	806
Facebook DHS Page:	791	1280
Linkedin:	754	642
Twitter:	1236	1773

Harry Leeson, Communications Officer, September 2016

Teaching and Learning Report

I have completed a three-year term as Teaching & Learning Officer, 2013-2106, and with the support of the board of Executive Trustees, have been approved to remain in post for another term.

My past tenure focused on supporting early-career professional development as well as facilitating workshops for practice-based research, forums for disseminating project work (publishing, podcasting, research funding) and collaborations between the DHS and partner affiliations including the College Art Association and the Design Research Society.

There are some changes in the Teaching & Learning Officer role that I look forward to developing, and I see particular scope in carrying this position to facilitate forums in teaching and learning for professional knowledge exchange and pedagogical practice advice, collaboration and development. This intent not only fits with the remit of the DHS, but it rises to a need presented by an increasingly unpredictable/challenging landscape of higher education, from new funding challenges to imposed frameworks of excellence in our fields. My new strategy is to focus on the DHS as a sort of 'base' for teaching and learning resources and to host discussions around pedagogy, inclusive learning and support networks. I welcome ideas, critiques and comments from the membership in this view.

My immediate attention falls to the following areas, followed by palpable strategies for implementing these ideas, numbered below and covering four main preoccupations with three actionable planning points.

Preoccupations:

- Expand impact of design history outside academic constituencies, including increased engagement with practitioners, early learners, members of the public and their communities, and younger students
- Invest in reaching non-design historians by going

outside our specialist subject society remit, allowing us to extent impact and relevance in new constituencies

- Continue work with other trustees to maximise impact of current award offers and skills exchanges, looking for effective ways to disseminate support schemes more broadly and inclusively
- Build a platform of teaching learning interdisciplinary strategies, curriculum guidelines, assessment briefs to share and advance pedagogical practice

Action Points:

1. **Revise the Essay Prize Award provision:** This provision now falls under the Teaching & Learning Officer remit. The current requirements for this prize suggest a dissertation prize in its length, requirements and submission guidelines. I would like to open up this award to include those not pursuing a design or design history degree but are engaging with design history methods and ideas. I would also like to explore expanding the tone and modes in which submissions approach design history by awarding excellent work in this area that is not necessarily an academic dissertation-length essay, or written for that matter. Expanding work in public projects, media content and workshop engagement could also be awarded outputs, and thusly encourage new directions in training and ethics of practice outcomes.
2. **Organise and facilitate free, accessible Teaching & Learning Forums in design history that also explore the preoccupations listed above over the next three years:** more/other suggestions are welcome. Content will be hosted on the DHS webpage, and the first forum will take place in the London 70 Cowcross Street facility, with scope for joint hosting in subsequent forums being both

desirable and responsible for increased access. Events will involve short presentations and group sharing of teaching practice surrounding a set theme, with plenty of accommodation for networking and discussion on practice and future pedagogy. Possible forum themes:

a) Critical, Inclusive Practices in Teaching & Learning for Art and Design

- modes of course delivery, outcome provision and strategic briefs

b) Teaching & Learning in Design History for Public Engagement

- strategies for out-ward facing pedagogy and instilling revised fundamentals for engagement during degree study
- sharing ideas for strategies and directions for design historians as advocates, specialists, engaged citizens

c) External and Industry Collaborations in Teaching & Learning

-including perspectives on design pedagogy outside institutions, academic and alternative routes to disseminating knowledge transfer, ethics of collaborative dynamics

- 3. Continue with successful provisions:** such as the publishing workshop and experimental workshops in haptic-based research, which have proven successful engagement points with interested publics and good publicity for the DHS and its expertise.

*Dr Maya Oppenheimer, Teaching and Learning Officer,
September 2016*

Research Grant Report

Design History Society Research Grants January 2015 to June 2016

From 2015 the overall level of funding available from the Design History Society increased. The former single Research Grant scheme was split into four separate annual grants to meet the Society's aim to support the field and encourage inclusive definitions of design history and its methods and approaches. Some of these grants are available only to DHS members while others are open to all, in order to increase membership benefits and to encourage new scholarship in the field. This is my first year in the role of Research Grants Officer, and it has been interesting to see the new awards becoming established.

In general, this year's submissions have been of a strikingly high quality. During the 12-month period since the previous AGM report a total of 9 applications were given partial or full funding. Awardees were based in three countries: UK (7); Ireland (1); USA (1), representing 6 institutions, as well as 3 given to independent scholars who are currently based in museums and other institutions, or are recently post-PhD. The focus of research ranged across a broad spectrum, from theatre design, to the typewriter in post-independence India, to design museums in contemporary China. A breakdown of the Research Publication Grants 2015, Research Exhibition Grants 2015 and Research Travel and Conference Grants 2015 were reported at the 2015 AGM.

Since then the following grants have been awarded:

Strategic Research Grants.

Deadline November 2015. Open to all scholars and students anywhere in the world. £1,000 available in total for individual awards of maximum £500:

1. Tiffany Lambert, independent scholar, towards the project 'Seeing Sorī Yanagi', £250.
2. Dr Suchitra Choudhury, University of Glasgow, towards the project 'Post-colonial re-evaluations:

the 'cashmere shawl design', £250.

3. Vaibhav Singh, University of Reading, towards the project 'The swadesi typewriter: mediating modernity, identity, and technology in post-independence India', £484.

Research Publication Grants.

Deadline January 2016. Open to all national and international DHS members. £3,000 available in total for individual awards of maximum £1,000:

1. Dr Helena Chance, Buckinghamshire New University, towards publication of *The Factory in the Garden*, £1000.
2. Professor Anne Massey, Middlesex University, towards publication of *Pop Art and Design*, £750.
3. Dr. Katharina Pfuetzner, National College of Art and Design Dublin, towards publication of *Designing for Socialist Need: Industrial Design Practice in the German Democratic Republic*, £1000.

Research Exhibition Grants.

Deadline March 2016. Open to all scholars and students anywhere in the world. Total of £1,500 available for maximum £1,000 grants:

No submissions received.

Research Travel and Conference Grants 2016.

Deadline May 2016. Open to all national and international DHS members (except students). Total of £3,000 available for maximum £1,000 grants:

1. Zara Arshad, independent scholar, towards

presenting the paper 'Design Museums in Contemporary China' at the ICDHS Conference in Taipei, 2016, £920.

2. Dr Freya Gowrley, independent scholar, towards research travel for the project 'From House to Home: Gender, Identity & Emotion in British Interior Design, 1750-1830', £740.
3. Dr Rachael Grew, Loughborough University, towards the project the project 'Venusberg and the Monstrous Self: Theatrical designs by Salvador Dalí and Leonor Fini', £300 (grant not taken up).

In each round applications were assessed by me, with two additional members of the Executive Committee, to ensure a fair and transparent assessment process. Particular thanks go to Dr Sabrina Rahman, Dr Maya Oppenheimer and Dr Leah Armstrong for acting as assessors and to Michaela Young for handling the majority of communications and correspondence associated with these awards. All successful applicants are required to submit a report for the DHS newsletter and blog.

Strategic Goals

Looking ahead to the rest of my tenure as Research Grants Officer, my strategic intentions for DHS grants are as follows:

1. To help increase the institutional and geographical spread of the applications DHS receives for each round of funding, while maintaining the quality and distinct disciplinary focus of applications received
2. To supplement DHS journal-generated income with sponsorship that might become a funding stream to cover grants, or in-kind sponsorship as a non-cash substitute for the student award.

3. To hold a regular joint event with another major design institution with the intention of:
 - a) promoting DHS Grants to encourage higher application rates
 - b) allowing for showcase of DHS awards and of DHS-funded research
 - c) promoting DHS more generally in order, ultimately, to raise the profile of design historical research
 - d) encouraging sponsors (eg publishers) to subsidise our awards

Conferences

Beyond my responsibility for research grants, I had the pleasure, with my fellow Trustee Dr Maya Oppenheimer, of co-convening a strand at the Design Research Society's 60th anniversary conference held in July at University of Brighton on behalf of the Design History Society. This was focused around the theme of 'Design Research – History, theory, practice: histories for future-focused thinking', with 11 international scholars presenting papers on this theme. The papers can be found at this link: <http://www.drs2016.org/papers1>. In February 2017 I will be co-convening (with Dr Sarah Lichtman, Parsons and Dr Verity Clarkson, Brighton) the inaugural panel of the Design History Society as affiliate of the College Art Association at their New York conference, on the theme of 'Exhibitions as Transnational Exchange from 1945: Beyond Euro-America'.

It has been a huge pleasure and privilege to work for the Design History Society this year and to get an insight into design historical research happening across the world. Many warm congratulations to all of our awardees.

Dr Harriet Atkinson, Research Grants Officer, September 2016

Conference Liaison Report

Proposals for the 2018 and Future Conferences

The call for institutions and Society members to propose to host and convene the Society's Annual Conference in 2018 went out at the end of August and will go out again in September and November. The Design History Society works towards furthering world-wide dialogues in design history and warmly welcomes proposals from individual members and institutions that support and engage in teaching and research in design history. An application form, with notes for completing the form, is available from designhistorysociety@gmail.com. All proposals for hosting the Annual Conference are received and considered 24-18 months in advance of the event. All applications will be considered by the Society's Executive Committee approximately 18-20 months before the conference is due to be held. The deadline for proposals for convening the 2018 conference is 1st December 2016. The Society collaborates very closely with conference conveners, and on acceptance of a conference proposal institutions hosting and convening the DHS Annual Conference enter into an agreement with the Society to confirm that obligations laid out by the Society (in the DHS Conference Guidelines and Code of Practice) will be met and agree a 50% profit/loss share.

2015 Conference

The 2015 DHS Annual Conference was convened 11th- 13th September 2015, by Professor Barry M. Katz, California College of the Arts, San Francisco. The conference theme was 'How We Live and How We Might Live', inviting participants to consider design histories of utopia. The broadly imagined topic of design(ed) utopias is strongly linked to the college's foundation as an Arts and Crafts institution but less concerned with the Arts and Crafts Movement per se, than with the spirit of critical utopianism that animated it: how have different historical periods in different places imagined utopia/s? The tone was set with tours of Google, Facebook, Stanford and IDEO, considering contemporary utopian visions and the three keynotes were well received and sparked lively,

scholarly debate. The first conference in the United States, the internationalism of the delegates coupled with the particular character of San Francisco led to a successful conference reiterating the Society's goals of promoting the study of global design histories, and bringing together those engaged in the subject.

2016 Conference

The 2016 DHS Annual Conference will be convened by Professor Anne Massey, London College of Communication at the University of Middlesex. The conference theme will be 'Design and Time'. It will address recent debate about global perspectives on time, the rhythms of work and the increasing speed of life. The conference will consist of four strands, each tackling the theme of 'design and time' from a different angle: Spaces, Interiors, Places; Objects, Materiality, Things; Remembering & Forgetting, and Experiencing Time. Keynote speakers include Professor Elizabeth Guffey (State University, New York), Professor Jeremy Till (University of the Arts, London) and Professor Leslie Atzmon (Eastern Michigan University).

2017 Conference

The 2017 DHS Annual Conference will be convened by Professor Kjetil Fallan, University of Oslo. The conference theme will be 'Making and Unmaking the Environment'. In this conference, the ambiguous place that design and designers hold in contemporary environmental discourse will be interrogated. They are alternatively blamed for causing environmental problems, and hailed as possessing some of the competences that could help solve these problems. Despite this long-standing centrality of design to environmental discourse, and vice versa, these interrelations remain underexplored in design historical scholarship. While design is both making and unmaking the environment, conversely, it might be argued that the environment is both making and unmaking design. This conference seeks to explore

how these processes unfold, across timescapes and landscapes, thus opening a new agenda for the field of design history.

As ever we look forward to contributions from international scholars, students and practitioners from diverse disciplines. Further details will be announced at the end of this conference and posted on the DHS and University of Oslo websites.

Strategic Goals

In my conference liaison role, I have three strategic goals:

1. **Internationalism:** I will encourage more non European conference applications, to both host conferences and attend.
2. **Support:** I will develop further support of attendance by early career researchers. This is the group most affected by the political climate and it is essential that they continue to have access to their discipline, through membership of societies and conference attendance.
3. **Accessibility:** I will continue to develop the DHS archive by requesting audio recordings of paper, ensuring that those unable to attend can still have access to the original research developed during the conference.

I welcome suggestions and contributions around these areas.

Dr Portia Ungley, Conference Liaison Officer, September 2016

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**Annual General Meeting
Report 2016**

