

Adrian Johns

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Details

Full name	Adrian Dominic Sinclair Johns
Date of birth	19 October 1965
Nationality	US and British
Address	Department of History University of Chicago 1126 E. 59th Street Chicago IL 60637
Telephone	773 702 2334 (o); 773 203 0809 (c)
E-mail	johns@uchicago.edu
Home page	https://history.uchicago.edu/directory/adrian-johns

Present Appointment

Allan Grant Maclear Professor
Chair, Department of History
University of Chicago

Education

1987-92	Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University, UK.	Ph.D.	1992
		M.A. (Cantab.)	1990
1984-7	Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University, UK.	B.A. (Hons.), Natural Sciences Class I	1987

Previous Appointments

2000-01	Associate Professor, Humanities Division Caltech Pasadena CA 91125
1998-2000	Professor (formerly Assistant Professor) of Sociology University of California, San Diego

1996-8	Senior Research Fellow in History Caltech
1994-6	Lecturer [=Assistant Professor] in History of Science University of Kent Canterbury, UK.
1991-4	Research Fellow Downing College Cambridge, UK.
1990-1	Munby Fellow University Library Cambridge, UK.

Publications

Books

[*Beyond Craft and Code: Human and Algorithmic Cultures, Past and Present*](#) (Osiris 38, 2023). (Co-edited with James Evans.) (The Introduction is by Evans and me, and Chapter One is by the two of us plus Tyler Reigeluth: both are listed separately below.)

[*The Science of Reading: Information, Media, and Mind in Modern America*](#) (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2023).

[*Death of a Pirate: British Radio and the Making of the Information Age*](#). New York: W.W. Norton, 2010.

French translation by Hélène Quiniou: *La mort d'un pirate: La société de l'information à l'épreuve des ondes*. Paris, France: Zones Sensibles, 2011.

[*Piracy: The Intellectual Property Wars from Gutenberg to Gates*](#). Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2009.

Italian translation by M. Togliani and G. Mageri: *Pirateria: Storia della Proprietà Intellettuale da Gutenberg a Google*. Torino, Italy: Bollati Boringhieri, 2010.

Spanish translation by T. Fernández Aúz and B. Eguibar, *Piratería: Las Luchas por la Propiedad Intelectual de Gutenberg a Gates*. Madrid, Spain: Ediciones Akal, 2013.

Czech translation by Lucie Chlumská and Ondrej Hanus, *Pirátsství: Boje o Dusevní Vlastnictví od Gutenbergu po Gatese*. Brno: Host, 2013.

[*The Nature of the Book: Print and Knowledge in the Making*](#). Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1998.

Papers

- “Science and the Book in Early Modern England.” In A. Smyth (ed.), [*The Oxford Handbook to the History of the Book in Early Modern England*](#) (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023), 347-361.
- “Introduction: How and Why to Historicize Algorithmic Cultures.” With James Evans. In Johns and Evans (eds.), [*Beyond Craft and Code: Human and Algorithmic Cultures, Past and Present*](#) (*Osiris* 38, 2023. University of Chicago Press), 1-15.
- “The Craft and Code Binary: Before, During, and After.” With James Evans and Tyler Reigeluth. In Johns and Evans (eds.), [*Beyond Craft and Code: Human and Algorithmic Cultures, Past and Present*](#) (*Osiris* 38, 2023. University of Chicago Press), 19-39.
- “Piracy in the Book Trade” [essay review of Robert Darnton, *Piracy and Publishing*], [*American Historical Review*](#) 127:3 (September 2022), 1433–1435.
- “Mischievous Magnanimity,” in D. Margócsy and R. Staley (eds.), [*The Mantis Shrimp: A Simon Schaffer Festschrift*](#) (Cambridge: Cambridge HPS Collective, 2022), 365-69.
- “Watching Readers Reading.” [*Textual Practice*](#) 35:9 (October 2021), 1429-52.
- [Reprinted in P. McDowell (ed.), *Reading McLuhan Reading* (New York: Routledge, 2023).]
- “Privacy.” In A. Blair, P. Duguid, A.-S. Goering, and A. Grafton (eds.), [*Information: A Historical Companion*](#) (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2021), 686-93.
- “The New Rules of Knowledge” (with James Evans). An introduction to a tryptich of papers on algorithmic epistemology. [*Critical Inquiry*](#) 46:4 (Summer 2020), 806-12.
- “Orders of Service: Markus Krajewski, *The Server*.” *Technology and Culture*. 61:2 (April 2020), 682-85.
- “Lay Assaying and the Scientific Citizen.” [*Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*](#) 160:1 (March 2016), 18-25.
- “The Coming of Print to Europe.” In [*The Cambridge Companion to the History of the Book*](#), edited by L. Howsam, 107–24. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.
- “*Piracy*” (a conversation about the book). *Media History* 2014 (DOI: 10.1080/13688804.2014.949434).
- “Intellectual Property.” In [*Globalization in Practice*](#), edited by N. Thrift, A. Tickell, S. Woolgar, and W. H. Rupp, 183–88. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.
- “The Uses of Print in the History of Science.” [*Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*](#) 107, no. 4 (Dec. 2013): 393–420.

- “The Ecological Origins of Copyright Skepticism.” *World Intellectual Property Organization Journal* 5, no. 1 (2013): 54–64.
- “The Information Defense Industry and the Culture of Networks.” *Amodern 2: Network Archaeology* (2013).
- “False Modesty” (Essay review of S. Shapin, *Never Pure*.) *Metascience* October 2013 (DOI 10.1007/s11016-013-9846-7).
- “Gutenberg and the Samurai: Or, The Information Revolution is History.” *Anthropological Quarterly* 85:3 (Summer 2012), 859-83.
- “Die Moral des Mischens: Audiokassetten, Private Mitschnitte und ein Neuer Wirtschaftszweig für die Verteidigung des Geistigen Eigentums” (“The Morals of Mixing: Cassettes, Home Taping, and the Emergence of the Intellectual Property Defense Industry”), *Zeitschrift für Medienwissenschaft* 6 (January 2012), 17-35 (a special issue edited by J.D. Peters and E. Schüttpelz).
- “Historical Perspectives on the Circulation of Information,” *American Historical Review* 116:5 (December 2011), 1393-1435 [A conversation with P.N. Edwards, L. Gitelman, G. Hecht, B. Larkin, and N. Safier].
- “London and the Early Modern Book,” in L. Manley (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of London* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011), 50-66.
- “The Book in, and as, American History.” *New England Quarterly* 84:3 (September 2011), 496–511 (essay review of D.D. Hall, H. Amory, et al. (eds.), *A History of the Book in America*, 5 vols.).
- “[The property police.](#)” In M. Woodmansee, P. Jaszi, and M. Biagioli (eds.), *Making and Unmaking Intellectual Property: Creative Production in Legal and Cultural Perspective* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011), 199-213.
- “Language, Practice, and History.” In L. Bently, J. Davis, and J.C. Ginsburg (eds.), *Copyright and Piracy: An Interdisciplinary Critique* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), 44-52.
- “The Piratical Enlightenment.” In C. Siskin and W. Warner (eds.), *This is Enlightenment* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010), 301-20.
- “Ink.” In E. Spary and U. Klein (eds.), *Materials and expertise in early modern Europe: Between Market and Laboratory* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010), 101-24.
- “Changes in the World of Publishing.” In J. Chandler (ed.), *The Cambridge history of English Romantic Literature* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009), 377-402.
- “Piracy as a business force.” *Culture machine* 10 (2009), 44-63. Online at culturemachine.net.
- “Coleman Street.” *Huntington Library Quarterly* 71:1 (2008), 33-54. Online [here](#).

- “Truth and malicious falsehood.” *Nature* 451 (February 28, 2008), 1058-60.
- “The identity engine: printing and publishing at the beginning of the knowledge economy.” In L. Roberts, S. Schaffer and P. Dear (eds.), *The mindful hand: inquiry and invention from the late Renaissance to early industrialisation* (Chicago, IL: Edita/University of Chicago Press, 2007), 403-28. Online at http://www.knaw.nl/cfdata/publicaties/detail.cfm?boeken_ordernr=20041102.
- “Coffeehouses and print shops.” *The Cambridge History of Science, III: Early Modern Science* (ed. L. Daston and K. Park. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), 320-40.
- “Intellectual property and the nature of science.” *Cultural Studies* 20 (2006), 145-64; online [here](#).
- Arts of Transmission*. Special issue of *Critical Inquiry*, 31:1 (Autumn 2004), edited by J. Chandler, A. Davidson, and A. Johns.
- “Foreword.” In W.J. Ong, S.J., *Ramus, Method, and the Decay of Dialogue: From the Art of Discourse to the Art of Reason* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004).
- “Reading and Experiment in the Early Royal Society.” K. Sharpe and S. Zwicker (eds.), *Reading, Society and Politics in Early Modern England* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003), 244-71.
- “Print and Public Science.” *The Cambridge History of Science, IV: Science in the Eighteenth Century* (ed. R. Porter. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003), 536-60.
- “Science and the Book.” *The Cambridge History of the Book in Britain* (7 vols. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. General Editors: D.F. McKenzie, D.J. McKitterick, I.R. Willison), vol. IV (2003), 274-303.
- “The Ambivalence of Authorship in early Modern Natural Philosophy,” in M. Biagioli and P. Galison (eds.), *Scientific Authorship: Credit and Intellectual Property in Science* (New York: Routledge, 2003), 67-90.
- “How to acknowledge a revolution.” *American Historical Review* 107 (2002), 106-25 (part of an invited “Forum” with Elizabeth Eisenstein and Anthony Grafton).
- “Pop music pirate hunters,” *Daedalus* 131:2 (Spring 2002), 67-77.
- “Printing, Publishing and Reading in London, 1660-1720.” P. O’Brien (ed.), *Urban Achievement in Early Modern Europe: Golden Ages in Antwerp, Amsterdam and London* (Cambridge University Press, 2001).
- “The Past, Present, and Future of the Scientific Book.” N. Jardine and M. Frasca-Spada (eds.), *Books and the Sciences in History* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 408-26.

- “The Physiology of Reading.” N. Jardine and M. Frasca-Spada (eds.), *Books and the Sciences in History* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 291-314.
- “Miscellaneous Methods: Authors, Societies and Journals in Early Modern England.” *British Journal for the History of Science* 33 (2000), 159-86.
- “Identity, Practice, and Trust in Early Modern Natural Philosophy.” *Historical Journal* 42 (1999), 1125-45.
- “Science and the Book in Modern Cultural Historiography.” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 29 (1998), 167-94.
- “Prudence and Pedantry in Early Modern Cosmology: The Trade of Al Ross.” *History of Science* 35 (1997), 23-59.
- “Flamsteed’s Optics and the Identity of the Astronomical Observer.” In F. Willmoth (ed.), *Flamsteed’s Stars* (Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer, 1997), 77-106.
- “Natural History as Print Culture.” In N. Jardine, J. Secord, E. Spary (eds.), *Cultures of Natural History: from Curiosity to Crisis* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), 106-24.
- “The Physiology of Reading and the Anatomy of Enthusiasm.” In A. Cunningham, O. Grell (eds.), *Religio Medici: Religion and Medicine in Seventeenth Century England* (Aldershot: Scolar Press, 1996), 136-70.
- “The Physiology of Reading in Restoration England.” In J. Raven, H. Small, N. Tadmor (eds.), *The Practice and Representation of Reading in England* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), 138-61.
- “The Ideal of Scientific Collaboration: The ‘Man of Science’ and the Diffusion of Knowledge.” In H. Bots, F. Waquet (eds.), *Commercium Litterarium: La Communication dans la République des Lettres, 1600-1750* (Amsterdam: APA-Holland University Press, 1994), 3-22.
- “History of Science and the History of the Book.” In S. Cavaciocchi (ed.), *Produzione e Commercio della Carta e del Libro Sec. XIII-XVIII* (Firenze, Italy: Le Monnier, 1992), 881-90.
- “History, Science and the History of the Book: the Making of Natural Philosophy in Early Modern England.” *Publishing History* 30 (1991), 5-30.

Short pieces

Response to David Gissen, “Reading in a Very Dark Room,” *Forty-Five*, September 2015:
<http://forty-five.com/papers/27/>

“Printing as a Medium.” *International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Sciences* (26 vols. New York: Elsevier, 2001), 12050-12055.

“The Birth of Scientific Reading,” *Nature* 409:6818 (January 2001), 287.

“Printing: Invention of, Europe.” D. Jones (ed.), *Censorship* (4 vols. London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2001), III, 1950-55.

Book reviews for *American Historical Review*, *Annals of Science*, *British Journal for the History of Science*, *The Economist*, *German History*, *History*, *Isis*, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, *Journal of Modern History*, *Medical History*, *Metascience*, *Nature*, *Physis*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Times Higher Education Supplement*, and others.

Contributor to the *Dictionary of National Biography*, *New Dictionary of National Biography*, *Encyclopaedia of the Scientific Revolution* (Routledge, 2000), and *Reader's Guide to the History of Science* (Fitzroy Dearborn, 2001).

iv. Podcasts, Newspaper Articles, etc. (selected)

“[The Science of Reading and the Making of the Information Society](#),” UIUC, March 2024.

[Unsiloeed](#) on the science of reading, September 2023.

[Lars og Pål](#) on the science of reading, September 2023.

[Big Brains](#) on the science of reading, September 2023.

“There is no right way to read.” [Time](#), 2023.

“[After Hours: Historia Coelestis](#),” Linda Hall Library, November 2022.

“Censorship and Information Control in Information Revolutions,” a series of public events in late 2018 organized by Ada Palmer (who did most of the work), Cory Doctorow, and me:
<https://voices.uchicago.edu/censorship/1245-2/>

“Too Much Information”: WFMU:
<http://www.wfmua.org/listen.m3u?show=42137&archive=72473>

Hearsay Culture (Stanford Law School/KZSU-FM):
http://cyberlaw.stanford.edu/podcasts/20101124_Levine_127_Johns.mp3

Surprisingly Free (George Mason University):
<http://surprisinglyfree.com/2010/06/21/adrian-johns-on-piracy/>

C-Span:
<http://www.c-spanvideo.org/program/id/226130>

BBC World Service:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10118823>

Out-law.com (UK legal podcast):
<http://www.out-law.com/default.aspx?page=10832>

This Way Up (Radio New Zealand):
http://static.radionz.net.nz/assets/audio_item/0020/2269100/twu-20100417-1330-ACTA_and_the_history_of_IP_piracy-m048.asx

Rorotoko:
http://www.rorotoko.com/index.php/article/adrian_johns_interview_death_pirate_british_radio_making_information_age/

Background Briefing (Australian Broadcasting Corporation):
<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/backgroundbriefing/stories/2010/3048341.htm>

WILL-AM (Illinois Public Radio):
<http://will.illinois.edu/focus/interview/focus110104b/>

Journal of Science Communication (Italy):
<http://jcom.sissa.it/archive/10/01/Jcom1001%282011%29C01/>

La Repubblica (Italy): http://www.bollatiboringhieri.it/pdf/RassegnaStampa_1341.pdf

v. Multimedia

- | | |
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| 2000 | Software installation demonstrating the use Peter Apian's <i>Astronomicum Caesareum</i> (1540) for the Huntington Library's <i>Star Struck</i> exhibition on the history of astronomy. |
| 1998-2003 | Project design and pilot modules for "The Universal Laboratory," a multimedia initiative in the history and sociology of the sciences (funded by NEH as <i>Microcosmos</i>). |

Awards

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 2020-21 | NEH Sabbatical Fellowship |
| 2018-21 | Neubauer Collegium, "Censorship, Information Control, and Information Revolutions from Printing Press to Internet" (Co-PI with Ada Palmer). [NB: Palmer was the real primary for this project.] |
| 2015 | UKC Innovation in Academia Award, Los Angeles |
| 2012 | Gordon J. Laing Award, University of Chicago Press (for <i>Piracy</i>). |
| 2012 | Guggenheim Fellowship. |
| 2012 | ACLS Fellowship. |
| 2010 | Book of the Year. American Society for Information Science and Technology. |
| 2010 | Best Foreign Book From Inhouse Bestsellers award, Sharjah International Book Fair. |
| 2005 | National Science Foundation sabbatical award. |
| 2001 | American Philosophical Society sabbatical award. |
| 1999 | Leo Gershey Award, American Historical Association. |

1999	John Ben Snow Prize, North American Conference on British Studies.
1999	Louis Gottschalk Prize, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.
1999	SHARP Prize (best book on the history of authorship, reading, and publishing).
1999	Research grant, Committee on Research, University of California.
1996-7	Various research and travel funds from Caltech.
1987-93	Various research grants from Downing and Corpus Christi Colleges, the British Academy, and the Royal Society.
1987-90	British Academy Major Studentship, Cambridge University.
1988	Caldwell Scholarship, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.
1987	Bronowski Prize for best dissertation in the history of science, Cambridge University.
1987	Bacon Prize, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.
1985	Caldwell Scholarship, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.
1985	Bacon Prize, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Teaching

2023-24	“Radicals in Early Modern England” (with Gabriel Groz). 2-quarter Department Seminar (with Eleonor Gilburd).
2022-23	Colloquium “Introduction to Early Modern Europe.”
2021-22	Two-quarter “Colloquium on Early Modern Britain” (with S. Pincus). “Science, Culture, and Society III.” “History of Information.” “Introduction to Science Studies.”
2020-21	On research leave
2019-20	“Science, Culture, and Society III.” “Introduction to Science Studies.” “An Age of Revolutions in an Early Modern Society: Britain from Reformation to Enlightenment” (two-quarter graduate seminar)
2018-19	“Censorship, Information Control, and Revolutions in Information Technology from the Printing Press to the Internet” (with Ada Palmer). “Science, Culture, and Society III: Science in the Contemporary World.” Graduate Reading/Research class on early modern Britain (with Steven Pincus)
2017-18	“Science, Culture, and Society I.” “Introduction to Science Studies.” “Britain’s Age of Revolutions.” “History of Information.”
2016-17	On research leave
2015-16	“Science, Culture, and Society II.”

	<p>“Introduction to Science Studies.”</p> <p>“The History of Information.”</p> <p>“Early Modern Britain.”</p>
2014-15	<p>“Science, Culture, and Society II.”</p> <p>“Introduction to Science Studies.”</p> <p>“The History of Information.”</p> <p>“Early Modern Britain.”</p>
2013-14	<p>“Science, Culture, and Society II.”</p> <p>“The History of Information.”</p> <p>“Introduction to Science Studies.”</p> <p>“Intellectual Property and Piracy in History.”</p>
2012-13	On research leave.
2011-12	<p>“Historiography.”</p> <p>“Introduction to Science Studies” (with K. Knorr Cetina).</p> <p>“History and Historiography of Science.”</p> <p>“Science, Culture, and Society II.”</p>
2010-11	<p>“Science, Culture, and Society I: The Scientific Revolution.”</p> <p>“Early Modern Britain.”</p> <p>“An Introduction to Science Studies” (with Karin Knorr).</p> <p>“Academic Warfare.”</p>
2001-10	<p>“Early modern Britain.”</p> <p>“Historiography.”</p> <p>“Introduction to science studies” (with J. Evans and with Karin Knorr Cetina).</p> <p>“A history of reading.”</p> <p>“Natural Philosophy 1200-1800.”</p> <p>“Piracy and intellectual property.”</p> <p>“Science, Culture, and Society II: the Scientific Revolution.”</p> <p>“Science, Culture, and Society III: Newton to the present.”</p> <p>“The book in early modern Europe.”</p> <p>“Favorite readings in the history of science” (with R.J. Richards, A. Winter).</p>
2000-01	<p>“Early Modern Europe.”</p> <p>“Intellectual Property and Piracy from Gutenberg to Gates.”</p> <p>“Science and Society.”</p>
1998-2000 society).	<p>“Introduction to Science Studies” (Graduate: with G. Doppelt).</p> <p>“Science and Society” (Introductory course to new minor in science and society).</p> <p>“Sociology of Technology.”</p> <p>“Humanities 2: Rome, Christianity, and the Middle Ages.”</p> <p>“Media and Society from the Book to the Internet.”</p> <p>“Introduction to Science Studies” (Graduate: with N. Oreskes).</p>

- 1996-8 “British History 1500-1700” (part one of a three-course sequence in British history).
 “The Scientific Revolution” (solo and with K. Knox).
 “Scientific Communication.”
 “Early Modern Europe.”
 “The History of the Book.”
 “Early Modern Europe.”
 Tutor in TIDE (a pedagogic initiative in multimedia).
- 1994-6 Convenor, lecturer, and seminar leader, “Development of the Social Sciences.”
 Seminar leader, “Introduction to Literature and Science.”
 Convenor, new MA program: “Writing the History of Science.”
 Convenor, new Part II course: “The Making of Knowledge in Early Modern Europe.”
 Lecturer, new Part I course: “The History of the Book.”
 Tutorial Co-ordinator, School of History (with responsibility for progress of all students in years 2 and 3 of a 3-year degree program).
- 1992-96 University of Cambridge:
 Part II course: “Magic in Renaissance and Early Modern Europe.”
 M.Phil. in History and Philosophy of Science: supervision and assessment.
 “Natural Philosophy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance, c.500-1600.”
 “Natural Philosophy and the History of the Book, c.1450-1850.”
 Faculty of Modern History: “Social and Natural Order in Early Modern England.”
 Acting Director of Studies in History, Downing College (Lent Term.)
 Supervision (1987-94): Scientific Ideas and Practice from Antiquity to the Renaissance; The Scientific Revolution; History of Science since the Enlightenment.

Service

Within the University of Chicago

- Chair, History Department, 2022-
- Saller Prize Committee, member, 2022, 2024
- Ad hoc Nominations Committee chair, History Department, 2022
- Admissions Committee member, History Department, 2021-22
- Search committee member, History of Science, 2020-21
- Saller Prize committee member, 2020
- Provostial committee on graduate student housing and travel, 2019-20
- University of Chicago Intellectual Property Committee, 2019-22
- Department of History Admissions Committee, member, 2019-20
- Interdivisional Search Committee, Meyer Chair in Jewish Studies, member, 2019-20
- Search committee, chair, Department of History, 2019-20
- Promotion Committee chair, Department of History, 2019-20
- Promotion/tenure committee chair, Department of History, 2019

Saller Prize Committee, member, 2019
 Interim Chair, Department of History, 2018-19
 Promotion committee, Department of History (2018)
 Search Committee, Department of History (2018)
 Admissions and Aid Committee, Department of History (2017-18)
 Tenure review committee (chair), department of History (2017-18)
 Social Science Division Dean's search committee (2017-18)
 Council of the Senate (2015-)
 Admissions Committee, Department of History (2014; chair, 2015)
 Tenure Review Committee (chair), Department of History (2013)
 Search Committee, postdoctoral fellowship in Disciplines and Technologies (2011-12)
 Ad hoc search committee in Department of History (2011)
 Chair, Search committee in History of Medicine (2010-11)
 Chair, Teaching committee, Department of History (2009-present)
 Chair, Fellowships and placement committee, Department of History (2007-8)
 Chair, CHSS (2001-present)
 Chair of the Board of University Publications, University of Chicago Press (5/04-7/06)
 Chair, Search committee in British History (2006-07)
 Member, Board of the Library (2009-12)
 Member, Bamboo advisory board (2010-)
 Member, Divisional dissertation prize committee (2008)
 Member, University Committee on Intellectual Property (2007-10)
 Member, committee on program in Environmental Studies (2005)
 Member, Fellowships Committee, Department of History (2003-6)
 Member, Search committee in Latin American history (2004-05)
 Organizer (with Richard Epstein, UC Law School): Cultural Policy Workshop series, 2004, on Intellectual Property

Beyond the University of Chicago (selected)

Series Editor, "Science.Culture" (Book series at University of Chicago Press) (ongoing; with Joanna Radin, Yale University)
 History of Science Society, Reingold Prize Committee, 2020-22 (chair, 2022)
 History of Science Society, Pfizer Prize Committee, 2012-15 (chair, 2015)
History of Science journal, editorial board (2015-)
 Advisory board, *History of Cartography* vol. 5, University of Chicago Press
 Program chair for History of Science Society meeting, 2004 (with A. Creager)
 Advisory board member, *Isis* (2003-06)
 Referee for submissions to *Historical Journal*, *Canadian Journal of History*, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, *Huntington Quarterly*, University of Chicago Press, Harvard University Press, Yale University Press, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Ashgate Press, and others
 Referee for proposals submitted to National Science Foundation
 Referee for Macarthur Foundation
 Referee for CNRS, Paris
 Referee for American Council of Learned Societies
 Referee for APS
 Tenure/promotion/recruitment referee for various institutions (typically 1-3 each year, details on request)

Board member, Society for Critical Exchange
PhD. Examiner, University of Sydney, Australia
Committee, ASECS Gottschalk Prize: member, 1999-2000; chair, 2000-01

Conferences and Presentations (2007-)

- 2024 “The Science of Reading.” University of Virginia.
“The Science of Reading and the Making of the Information Society.” UIUC.
“The Science of Reading.” Princeton University, History Department.
“Britain and the History of the Book.” Regenstein Library, Chicago.
- 2023 “The Science of Reading.” Regenstein Library, Chicago.
WNYC event: “Mixtapes to the Moon” (on cassette tapes and culture).
University of Chicago, Divinity School: “How the War Between Science and Religion Broke Out.”
Seminary Co-op Bookstore: “The Science of Reading.”
- 2022 “John Flamsteed’s *Historia Coelestis*.” Linda Hall Library, Kansas City (online).
Roundtable on best practices in writing and publishing, History of Science Society annual meeting
- 2021 “The Science of Reading.” University of Chicago, workshop on history, philosophy, and sociology of science
- 2019-20 “Watching Readers Reading.” Keynote, NYU Conference on Marshall McLuhan
“The Policing of Information.” Early Modern Studies lunch, University of Chicago
- 2018-19 “On Privacy.” History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science Workshop, University of Chicago
“Abiezer Coppe’s *Fiery Flying Roll*.” Early Modern Workshop, University of Chicago
“Fiscal Chemistry.” Nicholson Center conference on “Disciplines of Experiment,” University of Chicago
- 2017-18 “Framed!” Discussion of Theft in the Art World, Smart Museum, Chicago
Organizer (with James Evans), “Beyond Craft and Code” (a two-day conference on algorithms and society)
- 2016-17 “National Languages in Early Modern Books.” Renaissance Society of America annual meeting, roundtable

“The Purloined Label: Some Consequences of a Customs Seizure in New York, 1992.” Conference on “The Uses of Anomaly,” University of Chicago

“How the Renaissance’s Information Police gave us our Intellectual Property System.” Chicago Women’s Board.

2014-15 “How to be Cosmopolitan in Early Modern Europe.” Pennsylvania State University

“Living in the INFO Age: Historical Reflections on the Politics of Information Control.” Stanford University

“Policing Publics: Information Control in the Modernizing Process.” Conference on *Making Publics*, Stanford Humanities Center

“Living in the INFO Age.” HPSS Workshop, University of Chicago

“How to be Cosmopolitan in Early Modern Europe.” Early Modern Workshop, University of Chicago

Plenary Roundtable with James Secord: “Publish or Perish? The Past, Present and Future of the Scientific Periodical” conference, Royal Society, London, UK

“Universal Libraries, Romantic Readership, and the Orphaning of Books.” CRASSH, Cambridge University, UK

“Put Not Your Trust in Things: Authenticating Substances in Early Modern Europe.” UCLA

“Lay Assaying and the Scientific Citizen.” American Philosophical Society Annual Meeting, Philadelphia

Introduction, Summing-up, etc.: “Disciplines, Technologies, and Algorithms” Conference, Franke Center, University of Chicago

“State of the Field” Discussion with Richard John and Daniel Hallin: International Communication Association Preconference on “Communications and the State: Toward a New International History”

2013-14 “The Cultural Origins of the Printing Revolution.” University of Toronto, Center for the Book

“Creativity and Ownership in a Digital World.” Panelist, Virginia Tech

“Scientific and Other Revolutions in Seventeenth-Century London.” Chicago Public Library

“The Paradoxical Infrastructure of Innovation in Early Modern Europe.” Illinois Institute of Technology

“Kaleidoscopes.” Smart Museum event

“Explorers, Pirates, and Police.” European University, St. Petersburg, Russia

2012-13 “Why We Need a History of Scientific Reading.” UNAM, Mexico City

“The Politics of Media Piracy.” UC Gleacher Center

“Pirate Radio.” Batavia Public Library

“Playing with Time.” Panelist, Field Museum

“Piracy and the Problems of Information Policing.” NYU Law School

“The Uses of Print in the History of Science.” Bibliographical Society of America, New York

“The History and Politics of the Information Defense Industry.” Indiana University

“Why We Need a History of Scientific Reading.” Lisbon, Portugal

“The Politics and Policing of Information.” University of Connecticut

“The History and Politics of the Intellectual Property Police.” Basel University, Switzerland

“Directions in Humanities Research.” Panelist, ACLS, Baltimore

2011-12 “Ecology, Empire, and the Origins of Anti-Copyright Ideology.” Loyola University, Chicago

“Imperialism, Ecology, and the Origins of the Anti-Copyright Movement.” The New School, New York

Commentary, Society for the History of Technology annual conference, Cleveland

Commentary on Bruno Strasser, MIT [Cancelled because of illness]

“The Intellectual Property Defense Industry and the Crisis of Information.” University of British Columbia, Vancouver

“Making Waves: Pirate Radio.” Chicago Humanities Festival

“Pirate Media.” Social Sciences Division Visiting Committee Presentation, University of Chicago

“The Intellectual Property Defense Industry.” Yale University Law School

“Piracy.” University of Oklahoma

Participant in roundtable on prints and science in early modern Europe, Northwestern University

“Piracy.” University of California, Berkeley

“Medicine and the Crisis of Intellectual Property.” Entin Lecture in the History of Medicine, McGill University, Montreal

“The Invention of Scientific Reading.” University of North Carolina

“The Information Defense Industry and the History of Networks.” Keynote, conference on Network Archaeology, Miami University, Ohio

“The Invention of Scientific Reading.” Brown University.

2010-11 “Imperialism, Ecology, and the Origins of the Anti-Copyright Movement in the Nineteenth Century.” Coffin Lecture in the History of the Book, Senate House, London

“The Information Revolution is History.” HoTT Visiting Lecture, Florida State University

“For and Against Universal Libraries.” University of Chicago Library Group, Law School, University of Chicago

Commentary, International Society for the History and Theory of Intellectual Property, annual meeting, Washington, DC

“How Readers became Poachers: Modern Media and the Sciences of Reception.” Annual lecture for the Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Panel presentation, “The History of the Book: Promise and Limits.” “The Immaterial Renaissance,” New England Renaissance Conference, Yale University

“The Use and Abuse of Universal Libraries.” “Why Books?” conference, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University

“The Historical Functions of Piracy.” Scuola per Librai Umberto e Elisabetta Mauri, Venice, Italy

“The Promise and Peril of Universal Libraries.” California International Antiquarian Book Fair, San Francisco

“The Invention of Intellectual Property.” Joint CCHS/University Library public lecture series on the History of the Book, Northwestern University. Podcast [here](#).

“Inscriptions and Mechanisms in the Invention of Intellectual Property.” Keynote address, “Inscriptions: The Material Contours of Knowledge” conference, UC Riverside, March 2011. Podcast [here](#).

“The Use and Abuse of the Universal Library.” Huntington Library, San Marino, California

“The Morals of Mixing: Cassettes, Home Taping, and the Emergence of the Intellectual Property Defense Industry.” Ida Beam Distinguished Visiting Lecturer, University of Iowa

“Texts and Machines in the Constitution of Intellectual Property.” University of Iowa

“Unpacking the Universal Library: The Morals of Massive Research Collections, 1810-2010.” “Media Histories” conference, Columbia University

“The History and Politics of Policing Intellectual Property.” Chicago Cultural Policy Center

Introduction, CDI Project meeting on “Five New Projects.” Franke Center, University of Chicago

“The Mechanizing of the Word: Texts and Machines in the Constitution of Intellectual Property.”
Walter J. Ong, S.J., Memorial Lecture, St. Louis University

“Imperialism, Ecology, and the Globalization of Copyright in the Nineteenth century.” Bongiorno
Lecture, Oberlin College

“Creativity, Copyright, and the Universal Library: Romanticism and Writing at Times of Media
Revolution.” Center for Law, Technology, and the Arts/Center for the Study of Writing, Case
Western Reserve University

“The Crisis of Intellectual Property.” Center for Global Humanities, University of New England

“The Debate over Google’s Universal Library in Historical Perspective.” University of New
Hampshire

2009-10 “For and against universal libraries.” Bennington College.

“For and against Universal Libraries.” UCSD.

“Death of a Pirate.” History Dept., University of Chicago.

“The IP defense industry.” Midwest Faculty Forum.

“Historicizing Google.” Keynote, Center for Library Initiatives Conference.

“The future of Books.” UC Alumni Club.

“The Piratical Enlightenment.” UIUC.

Keynote, OCLC conference, Chicago.

2008-09 “God goes to Grub Street.” Beinecke Library, Yale University.

“Reading, listening, and viewing: social practices and the problem of public knowledge.” UCSB.

2007-08 “The authenticity engine.” Society for Scholarly Publishing, Boston, MA.

“Pirate principles: information, monopolies, and media in the modern age.” Yale University.

“Pharmaceuticals and the origins of modernity: adulteration, piracy, and credit in the early
Enlightenment.” University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

“Babbage and the book: information, modernity, and media at the origin of the knowledge
economy.” University of Chicago.

“Death of a Pirate: Murder and Media in the 1960s.” University of Michigan.

“Pirate Listeners and the Political Economy of Broadcasting, 1920-1950.” History of Science
Society, Washington, DC.

“Babbage and the Book: Printing in the Creation of an Information Society.” Breslauer Lecture, UCLA.