**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**RUTH SCHWARTZ COWAN**

**(2016)**

**POSITION:**

Janice and Julian Bers Professor, Emerita

History and Sociology of Science

University of Pennsylvania

Professor Emerita of History

The University at Stony Brook

Stony Brook, New York 11794-4348

**CONTACT:**

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Irvington, NY 10533

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ruthschwartzcowan@gmail.com

**EDUCATION:**

A.B. Barnard College, 1961, Zoology

M.A. University of California, Berkeley, 1964, History

Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University, 1969, History of Science

**TEACHING:**

Instructor, **Loyola College, Baltimore**, 1965-1966.

Supervisor, **University College (now Wolfson College), Cambridge (UK),** 1966-1967.

Instructor (1967-69); Assistant Professor (1969-74); Associate Professor (1974-85); Professor (1985-2002); Chair of the Honors College (1997-2002); Professor Emerita (2002-) **History Department, SUNY at Stony Brook.**

Assistant Professor, Visiting, History and Philosophy of Science, **Princeton University**, Fall, 1972.

Janice and Julian Bers Professor, History and Sociology of Science, (2002-2012); Chair of the Department, 2003-2008, 2011-2012; Professor Emerita,

(2012- ) **University of Pennsylvania**

**CURRENT PROJECTS**

(with Matthew Hirsch) second edition of, *A Social History of American Technology,* scheduled for publication, December, 2016).

(with Daniel J. Kevles and Peter Westwick), a history of the National Academies of Science, under contract with the NAS, research underway, scheduled for completion in 2017.

**PUBLICATIONS-BOOKS**:

2008 *Heredity and Hope: The Case for Genetic Screening* (Harvard University Press)

1997 *A Social History of American Technology* (New York: Oxford University Press). Korean edition (Kungree Press, 2012)

1996 (with Neil M. Cowan) *Our Parents' Lives: Everyday Life and Jewish Assimilation* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press) [revised and expanded edition of item below]

1989 (with Neil M. Cowan) *Our Parents Lives: The Americanization of Eastern European Jews* (New York: Basic Books).

1985 *Sir Francis Galton and the Study of Heredity in the Nineteenth Century* (New York: Garland Press).

1983 *More Work for Mother: The Ironies of Household Technology from the Open Hearth to the Microwave* (New York: Basic Books) British edition, (London: Free Association Books, 1989). Japanese edition, (Tokyo, Hosei Daigaku Shuppankyoku, 2010).

**PUBLICATIONS-ARTICLES:**

2016 **“**Commentary: Before Weismann and germplasm there was Galton and eugenics: the biological and political meaning of the inheritance of acquired characteristics in the late 19th century,” *International Journal of Epidemiology, 45, 1*: 15-20

2010 "Looking Back in Order to Move Forward: John McDermott, 'The Opiate of the Intellectuals," *Technology and Culture, 51, 1*: 122-138.

2009a “An Historian of Science and Technology Confronts Gender and Design,” in Jeremy Aynsley and Harriet Atkinson, eds. *Essays on Designing the Future: The Banham Lectures* Oxford: Berg) pp. 217-228.

2009b "Moving Up the Slippery Slope: Mandated Genetic Screening on Cyprus," *American Journal of Medical Genetics: Series C, Seminars in Medical Genetics*. *151C,1* (15 February 2009) 95-103

2005 “Eugenics, Genetic Screening, and the Slippery Slope,” in Roman J. Miller, Beryl H Brubaker and James C Peterson, eds.,*Viewing New Creations through Anabaptist Eyes: Ethics of Biotechnology* (Telford, PA: Cascadia) pp.149-167

2001 “Medicine, Technology and Gender in the History of Prenatal Diagnosis” in Angela Creager, Elizabeth Lunbeck and Londa Schiebinger,, eds., *Feminism in Twentieth Century Science, Technology and Medicine* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press) 186-197

2000 “Musings About the Woman Engineer as Muse,” in Ruth Oldenziel, Annie Canel and Karin Zachmann, eds, *Crossing Boundaries, Building Bridges: Women Engineers in Cross Cultural Perspective* (London: Harwood Press) xiv-xvii

1997 “Household Labor,” in James Grossman, ed., *National Historic Landmarks Theme Study in American Labor History* (National Park Service and the Newberry Library)

1996 "Technology is to Science as Female is to Male: Musings on the History and Character of Our Discipline," *Technology and Culture, 37,3* (July, 1996) 572-582.

1995 "Women and Science: Contested Terrain [essay review]," *Social Studies of Science, 25,2* (May, 1995) 363-368

1993a "Descartes' Legacy: A Theme Issue on Biomedical and Behavioral Technology," *Technology and Culture, 34,4* (October, l993) 72l-728.

1993b "Aspects of the History of Prenatal Diagnosis," Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy, 8, suppl. 1 (February, l993) 10-17. Reprinted in Karen Rothenberg and Elizabeth J. Thomson, Women and Prenatal Testing: Facing the Challenges of Genetic Technology (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 1994) pp. 35-48.\*

1992a "Genetic Technology and Reproductive Choice: An Ethics for Autonomy," in Daniel J. Kevles and Leroy Hood, eds., The Code of Codes: Scientific and Social Issues in the Human Genome Project, (Cambridge: Harvard University Press) pp. 244-263.

1992b "Coal Stoves and Clean Sinks: Housework between 1890 and 1920," in Jessica Foy and Thomas Schlereth, eds. American Home Life, 1880-1930: A Social History of Spaces and Services, (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press) pp. 211-224

l987a "The Consumption Junction: A Proposal for Research Strategies in the Sociology of Technology," in Wiebe Bijker, et.al., eds., The Social Construction of Technological Systems (Cambridge: MIT Press) pp. 26l-280.

l987b "Women's Work, Housework and History: The Historical Roots of Inequality in Work-Force Participation," in Naomi Gerstel and Harriet E. Gross, eds., Families and Work (Philadelphia, Temple University Press) pp.l64-l77.

1985a "More Work for Mother: Technology and Housework in the USA" in Robert M. Young and Les Levidow, eds., Science, Technology and the Labour Process, 2 (London: Free Association Press) pp. 88-l28.

1985b (With Mark H. Rose and Marsha S. Rose) "Clean Homes and Large Utility Bills, l900-l940," Marriage and Family Review, 9 (Fall, l985) 53-66.

1981 "Ellen Swallow Richards: Technology and Women," in Carroll Pursell, ed. Technology in America: A History of Individuals and Ideas (Cambridge, MA, MIT Press, l98l) pp. l42-l5l.

1979 "From Virginia Dare to Virginia Slims: Women and Technology in American Life," Technology and Culture, 20, 1 (January, 1979).

1977 "Nature and Nurture: Biology and Politics in the Work of Francis Galton," Historical Studies in the Biological Sciences, 1 (l977) l33-208.

1976a "The Influence of Habitat on Technology: Some Speculations on How a Study Might Commence," Report the Commission on American Values and Models of Human Habitation (American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, D.C., l976) 97-l03.

l976b "The 'Industrial Revolution' in the Home: Household Technology and Social Change in the Twentieth Century," Technology and Culture, l7, l (January, 1976) l-42. Reprinted numerous times in books intended for classroom use. French translation, Culture Technique, 3 (l980) 75-90.

l976c "Two Washes in the Morning and a Bridge Party at Night: The American Housewife Between the Wars," Women's Studies, 3 (l976) l47-l72.

1974 "The Washing Machine and the Working Wife: A Case Study of Technology and Social Change,"in Mary Hartmann and Lois Banner, eds., Clio's Consciousness Raised: New Perspectives on the History of Women (N.Y., Harper and Row, l974) 245-253.

l973 "Francis Galton's Contribution to Genetics," Journal of the History of Biology, 5 (l972) 509-528.

1972 "Francis Galton's Statistical Ideas: The Influence of Eugenics," Isis 63 (1972) 509-528.

l970a "Introduction," to Francis Galton, English Men of Science (London, Cass, l970).

l970b "Sir Francis Galton and the Continuity of Germplasm: A Biological Idea with Political Roots," Proceedings of the l2th International Congress of the History of Science, vol. 8 (Paris, Gallimard, l970) l8l-l86.

**EDITORIAL PROJECTS:**

Co-editor, with Daniel J. Kevles, online textbook for Making it New: Invention, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (<http://www.innovationcourse.org>, 2009)

Guest Editor, for the special issue, "Biomedical and Behavioral Technology," Technology and Culture, 34, 4 (October, l993)

**PUBLICATIONS - POPULAR ARTICLES:**

l984 "Let Us Now Praise Messy Houses," Newsday, (3 Feb) 73

1987a "Less Work for Mother?" American Heritage of Invention and Technology (Spring, l987); excerpted in Readers Digest (December, l987).

1987b "Why I Love/Hate My Clothes Washer," The Washington Post (l5 Feb) C3.

1990 "Twentieth Century housework: Less Drudgery, but just as much work," Utne Reader (March/April) 77.

**COURSES TAUGHT (undergraduate):**

History of Science; History of Biology; History of Technology; Social Studies of Science; Technology in American History; Women and the Family in American Life; Science, Technology and Medicine in Western Civilization; Human Reproduction in Western Civilization; Women/Science/Technology; Social and Ethical Issues in Reproductive Technology; U.S. History, 1865 to 1970; Science and Society (Honors College; Progress and its Discontents (Honors College); History of Genetics and Eugenics; Reproductive Issues in American History; Social History of American Medicine; Genetics and Social Policy.

**COURSES TAUGHT (graduate**):

Social History of Medicine; Women and the Family in History; Gender, Science, Medicine and Technology; Historiography of Science Technology and Medicine; Reading Seminar in History of Technology; Research Seminar in History of Technology.

**THESES SUPERVISED:**

SUNY-STONY BROOK

Nancy Stern, "From ENIAC to UNIVAC: A Case Study in the History of Technology." (1978) Currently, Distinguished Professor of Business, Hofstra University

Virginia Quiroga Metaxas, "Poor Mothers and Babies: A Social History of Childbirth and Childcare Institutions in l9th Century New York City." (l984) Currently, Professor of History, Southern Connecticut State College

Constance Koppelman, "Art, Nature and Society: The Tile Club in New York, 1870-1900," (1986) Formerly, Adjunct Instructor, Women's Studies, SUNY at Stony Brook

Judith Joseph, "The Nafkeh and the Lady: Jewish Prostitution in New York City, l900-l930." (1986)

Joanne Abel Goldman, "The New York City Sewer System l800-l865; The Evolution of a Technological and Managerial Infrastructure," (l988) Currently, Professor of History, Northern Iowa State University.

Lee Hiltzik, "The Long Island Biological Association, l883-l930," (1993) Currently, Director of Development, Rockefeller Archive Center, North Tarrytown, New York.

Marcia Meldrum, "Departures from the Design: The Randomized Clinical Trial in Historical Context, 1946-1970." (1994) Currently, Research Associate Professor, History Department, UCLA.

Alice Ross, "Women and Foodways on Long Island in the 19th Century," (1996) Formerly, Adjunct Instructor, SUNY Farmingdale

Nathaniel Comfort, "A Biography of Barbara McClintock," (1997) Currently Professor, Institute of the History of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University

Paula Viterbo, "Social and Biological History of the Rhythm Method of Birth Control," (2000) Currently, Editorial Assistant, The Papers of Thomas Jefferson

Tanfer Emin-Tunc, “Technologies of Choice: A History of Abortion Techniques in the United States, 1850 – 1980” (2005) Currently, Associate Professor, American Studies, Hacettepe University, Turkey

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Jeffrey D. Tang, “Sound Choices: The Audio Component Industry, 1930-1960” (2004) Currently, Associate Professor Integrated Science and Technology Department and Associate Dean, James Madison University

Dominique Tobbell, "Pills, Power, and Policy: How Drug Companies and Physicians Resisted Federal Reform in Cold War America*"* (2008) Currently, Director of and Associate Professor in the Program for the History of Medicine, University of Minnesota.

Christopher Jones, "Energy Landscapes: Coal Canals, Oil Pipelines, and Electricity Transmission Wires in the Mid- Atlantic,1820-1930 (2009) Currently Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies, Arizona State University

Corinna Schlombs, "Productivity Machines: Transatlantic Transfers of Computing Technology and Culture in the Cold War ," (2010) Currently, Assistant Professor, History, Rochester Institute of Technology

Matthew Hersch, " Spacework: Labor and Culture in America's Astronaut Corps, 1959-1979 (2010) Currently, Assistant Professor, History of Science, Harvard University.

Emily Pawley, " 'The Balance-Sheet of Nature:' Calculating the New York Farm, 1820­-1860," (2010, co-supervised with Robert Kohler) Currently Assistant Professor of History, Dickinson College

Erik Hintz "The Post-Heroic Generation: American Independent Inventors, 1900-1950 (2010) Currently, Historian, Lemelson Center for Invention and Innovation/National Museum of American History

Damon Yarnell, "Behind the Line: Outside Supply, Mass Production, and the Question of Managerial Expertise in the Model T Era," (2010) Currently, Associate Dean of Students, Dickinson College.

Jason Schwartz, "External Factors: Advisory Committees, Regulation, and American Public Health, 1962-1999," (2012, co-supervised with Robert Aronowitz) Currently, Assistant Professor, Yale University School of Public Health

**ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS:**

SUNY-STONY BROOK

Acting Director, Social Sciences Program, l97l-l972.

Graduate Admissions Officer, History Department, 1974-1975.

Assistant to the Academic Vice President, 1974-1975 (responsible for admissions policy for undergraduates and affirmative action for faculty)

Undergraduate Director, History Department, 1975-1976.

Director of Women's Studies, 1985-1990.

Co-Director, Federated Learning Communities, 1995-1997

Chair, Honors College, 1997-2002

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Interim Chair, History and Sociology of Science, 2011-2012

Chair, History and Sociology of Science, 2003-2008

Advisory Board Member, Women's Studies Program, 2002-2008

Undergraduate Chair, Science, Technology and Society major, 2009-2010

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Society for the History of Technology

President, 1992-1994; Vice President, 1991-1992;

Member of the Nominating Committee, 1982-84; Chair, 1984; 2012-2015

Member of the Advisory Council, 1975-1979;

Member of the Executive Council, 1979-8l; l985-88; 1994-1998

Women in Technological History, Special Interest Group

Encouraging Diversity in the History of Technology, Special Interest Group

History of Science Society

Member, Rossiter Prize Commitee, 2015-

Co-Chair, Committee on Women, 1982-1985

Member of the Committee on Isis, 1976-198l; Chair, 1980

Member of the Council, 1976-1979

Member of the Schumann Prize Committee, 1970

U.S. National Committee for the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science (National Academy of Sciences) Delegate, 1973-1979; 1990-1993; Chair, 1996-1999.

American Association for the Advancement of Science

Council Delegate, 1985-1987

Member-at-large of the Section Committee, Section L, 1977-78

Member of the Nominating Committee, Section L, l973-l976

Society for the Social Study of Science,

Executive Council, 1985-1988

Program Committee, Chair, 1986.

Joint Atlantic Seminar in History of Biology

Host, 1970; 1995

**EDITORIAL AND ADVISORY BOARDS:**

Social Studies of Science, Editorial Board, 1987-

Science and Culture, Editorial Board, 1992-

American National Biography, Advisory Editor, 1989-2000

Smithsonian Council, 1993-2001

Center for the History of Electrical Engineering, Advisory Board, 1994-1999

Archives of Women in Science, Iowa State University, 1994-

Quarterly Review of Biology, Advisory Editor, 1980-2002

Advisory Board, Lemelson Center for the History of Invention, 1999-2002,

Visiting Committee, Lemelson Center for the History of Invention, 2009; Chair, 2014.

Visiting Committee for the Humanities, MIT, 2005-2008

Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science, Founding Executive Board Member, 2005-2008; Advisory Board Member, 2012-

Nanotechnology and Society Center, University of California, Santa Barbara, Advisory Committee, 2007-

Board of Trustees, Philadelphia College of Physicians, 2007-2010

Community Advisory Board for Genetic Studies, North Shore/Long Island Jewish Health System, Chair, 2010-

**FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS:**

NSF Undergraduate Research Fellow, American Museum of Natural History, 1959-1961

NDEA Graduate Fellow in History of Science, University of California, Berkeley, 1962-1964

NIH Graduate Research Assistantship, History of Genetics Project, Johns Hopkins University, 1964-1966

NIH Doctoral Research Fellow, 1966-1967

ACLS Summer Travel Grant, 1968

SUNY Research Fellow, Summer l969

Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences Research

Fellow in Statistics, Summer 1970

ACLS Training Fellowship, Spring 1973 (to study statistics)

AAAS Summer Research Fellow, Summer 1976

NSF Grant #SOC7602424A0l - The Development of Household Technology in the United States and its Impact on Housewives, 1900-1950; January 1976 to September 1977

NSF Grant, Dissertation Support for Nancy Stern, 1976-1978

SUNY Research Grant, Summer, 1979

NSF Grant #SOC7912968 - The Development of Household Technology in the United States and Its Impact on Housewives, 1900-1950; August 1979 - January, l98l

ACLS Research Grant, July - December, 1982

ACLS Summer Travel Grant, July, 1984

Associated Faculty, on amended NOAA grant, Personal Computer Assisted Information System for Coastal Zone Decision Making in the Port of New York and New Jersey (Peter Weyl: Principal Investigator), 1982-1983

NSF Grant, Dissertation Support for Sibylla Kennedy, 1985-1987

NSF Grant # DIR-88ll365 - The Development of Technological Systems in Biomedical Research: The Case of Amniocentesis; l989-l99l

NEH/NIH Grant RH2102791 - The History of Prenatal Diagnosis; 1991-l992.

Sloan Foundation - Women Engineers: Breaking the Mold 1992-1995

NSF Grant, Dissertation Support for Paula Viterbo, 1995-97

NSF Grant, Dissertation Support for Nathaniel Comfort, 1996-1998

NSF Grant, Dissertation Support for Michael Krysko, 1999-2001

NSF Grant, Dissertation Support for Tanfer Emin, 2003-2005

NSF Grant, Dissertation Support for Corinna Schlombs, 2007-2009

ELSI Center of Excellence, Associated Investigator, University of Pennsylvania Center for the Integration of Genetic Health Care Technologies, 2007-2012

NSF Nano-Bio Interface Center, Associated Investigator, Nanotechnology and Society, 2008-2012

NSF Grant, Dissertation Support for Damon Yarnell, 2008-2010

**HONORS:**

Phi Beta Kappa Lecturer, 198l-l982

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellow, 1988-89

Dexter Prize, Society for the History of Technology, 1984

Sherman Fairchild Distinguished Scholar,

California Institute of Technology, 1989-90

Leonardo daVinci Prize, Society for the History of Technology, 1997

Senior Fulbright Scholar (Cyprus) 1999

Fellow, College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 2004-

J.D. Bernal Prize, Society for the Social Study of Science, 2008

Member, American Philosophical Society, 2014

**CONSULTANTSHIPS: (selected)**

Chair, Oversight Panel, History and Philosophy of Science Section, National Science Foundation, 1989

Member, Committee of Visitors, Science, Technology and Society, National Science Foundation, 1996

Office of Technology Assessment, U.S. Congress, Advisory Panel on International Competitiveness in Electronics, 1979-1983.

Ford Foundation Advisory Panel, Humanities Research Grants, 198l.

Winterthur Museum, "The Material Culture of American Homes” l984.

Cowell Hall of California History, Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA. l989-90.

The Computer Museum, "Milestones of a Revolution," Boston, l989-l990.

"Household Marvels," History Channel, 1992

Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, l993

National Museum of American History, Old House Project, 2000

WNET, Frontier House Project, 2001

Ephraim Smith Productions, "Power for the Parkinsons," 2005