

Lloyd Ackert, Ph.D.

Contact Information

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Current Position

2006-Present Assistant Teaching Professor in History, Department of History & Politics, Drexel University

2010- Present Director, Master's Program in Science, Technology and Society

Previous Position

2004-2006 Yale University Library Special Collections Humanities Fellow, and Post-Doctoral Associate at the Department of the History of Science and History of Medicine at Yale University (Supervisor, Alice Prochaska, University Librarian, Yale University Library)

Education

1997-2004 Ph. D. Program in the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, The Johns Hopkins University. Program completed and degree awarded May 2004

Fields Completed graduate fields in History of Russian Science (with Professor Daniel Todes), History of Biology and Ecology (with Professor Sharon Kingsland), and Russian History (with Professor Jeffrey Brooks), 1999-2000

Thesis *From the "Thermodynamics of Life" to Ecological Microbiology: Sergei Vinogradskii and the Cycle of Life, 1850-1950*, Abstract Number, AAT 3130632

Languages Russian (fluent), French (reading/basic speaking), German (reading)

1996-1997 Graduate Student, The Institute for the History of Natural Science and Technology, The Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia (tutorials in the history of Russian biology and ecology, and the sociology of scientific knowledge, conducted in Russian, with Professors Eduard Kolchinskii and Yasha Gall)

1991-1996 Interdepartmental Interdisciplinary Major, College of Liberal Arts, The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities Campus. Interdisciplinary Major in History of Science, Evolutionary Biology (in Professor James Curtsinger's Genetics Laboratory), and Russian Language and Areas Studies (Major Supervisor, Professor John Beatty). BA awarded 1997

Research

Publications

“The “Cycle of Life” in Ecology: Sergei Vinogradskii’s Soil Microbiology, 1885-1940,” *Journal of the History of Biology*, Volume 40, No. 1, March 2007, 109-145.

“The Role of Microbes in Agriculture: Sergei Vinogradskii’s Discovery and Investigation of Chemosynthesis, 1880-1910,” *Journal of the History of Biology*, Volume 39, 2006, No. 2, 373-406.

w/ Benno Warkentin, “Introduction,” *Footsteps in the Soil: People and Ideas in Soil History* (Elsevier, 2006), ed. Benno Warkentin.

“Ehkologicheskii podkhod Sergeia Nikolaevicha Vinogradskogo k izucheniiu mikrobiologii pochvy, 1920-1940” (“Sergei Nikolaevich Vinogradskii’s Ecological Approach to Soil Microbiology, 1920-1940”), *Ehvoliutsionaiia Biologiia: Istoriiia i Teoriia (Evolutionary Biology: History and Theory)* (St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg Institute of History RAS, Nestor-History Press, Russia, 2005), Vol. 3, eds. Yasha Gall and Eduard Kolchinskii, 160-175.

“Vasilii Vasil’evich Dokuchaev, 1846-1903” *Supplement to the Modern Encyclopedia of Russian, Soviet, and Eurasian History*, editors Bruce Adams, Edward J. Lazzarini, and George N. Rhyne, Vol. 7.

“Vivien Theodore Thomas (1910-1985),” *The African American National Biography Project* (Cambridge: W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for Afro-American Research and Oxford University Press), December 2003.

“Ferdinand Cohn's Influence on the Development of Modern Bacteriology,” *Science and Its Times: Understanding the Social Significance of Scientific Discovery* (Chicago: Gale Group, Inc., 2001), Neil Schlager, ed., Vol. 6. (2000 word topical essay).

“Ferdinand Julius Cohn,” *Science and Its Times: Understanding the Social Significance of Scientific Discovery* (Chicago: Gale Group, Inc., 2001), Neil Schlager, ed., Vol. 6. (600 word biography).

“Sergei Sergeevich Chetverikov,” *Science and Its Times: Understanding the Social Significance of Scientific Discovery* (Chicago: Gale Group, Inc., 2001), Neil Schlager, ed., Vol. 6. (75 words).

“Theodosius Grigor'evich Dobzhansky,” *Science and Its Times: Understanding the Social Significance of Scientific Discovery* (Chicago: Gale Group, Inc., 2001), Neil Schlager, ed., Vol. 7. (600 word biography).

Fukui, H. H., Ackert, L. & Curtsinger, J. W., “Deceleration of age-specific mortality rates in chromosomal homozygotes and heterozygotes of *Drosophila melanogaster*” *Experimental Gerontology*, No. 31, 1996, 517-531.

Book Reviews

Review of Claude E. Dolman and Richard J. Wolfe, *Suppressing the Diseases of Animals and Man, Theobald Smith, Microbiologist* (Boston, MA: Boston Medical Library, 2003); *Journal of the History of Biology*, October 2004, Vol. 37, No. 3, 597-598.

“Patronage Politics in the Rise of an Imperial Human Ecology,” a review of Peder Anker, *Imperial Ecology: Environmental Order in the British Empire, 1895-1945* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2001); *Metascience*, November 2002, Vol. 11, No. 3, 333-335.

“In This Corner, Nature,” a review of Douglas R. Weiner, *A Little Corner of Freedom: Russian Nature Protection from Stalin to Gorbachev* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999); *Metascience*, July 2002, Vol. 11, No. 2, 256-261.

Review of “Debra Jan Bibel, *Microbial Musings: A History of Microbiology, Breakthroughs, Controversies, Philosophical Issues, and Connections* (Belmont, CA: Star Publishing Company, 2001); *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, Summer 2003, Vol. 77, No. 2, 466-467.

Scholarly Presentations

“A Russian Pasteurian: Sergei Winogradsky’s French Career in Brie-Conte-Robert” at the international conference “Russian-French Links in Biology and Medicine, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia, September 2011.

“Freshman Honors Courses” at the workshop “High Impact Educational Practices” organized by the Drexel Center for Academic Excellence, Drexel University, May 5, 2010.

“Biological Thermodynamics: Andrei Famintsyn’s “Exchange of Matter and Transformation of Energy, 1850-1885,” at the Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Washington, D.C., November 2007.

“Parallel Biography: Ferdinand Cohn versus Louis Pasteur on Bacterial Speciation, 1850-1870,” and Session Organizer for “Exploring Biography: Approaches to ‘Lives in Science’” for the Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Vancouver, BC, November 2006.

"Sergei Winogradsky and the Cycle of Life: The Rise of Ecological Soil Microbiology, 1925-1950," at the Rutgers University Seminar, Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, Rutgers University, December 2006.

“Serge Winogradsky,” at the Conference “Serge Winogradsky Aujourd’hui” co-organized by Syndicat Interdepartmental pour L’Assainissement de L’Agglomération Parisienne (S.I.A.A.P.) and Res Naturalis sarl, Versailles, France, October 2006.

“The Cycle of Life in Soil Science,” at the 18th World Congress of Soil Science, July 2006.

“Organic Matter and the Rise of Holistic Agriculture: John Pitkin Norton and William Henry Brewer at Yale, 1840-1900,” Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Minneapolis, MN, November 2006.

“The Role of Biography in History: Creativity, Concepts, and Lives in Science at Yale, 1840-1900,” to the Whitney Humanities Center Fellows, Yale University, September 2005.

“Organic Matter and the Rise of Holistic Agriculture: John Pitkin Norton and William Henry Brewer at Yale, 1840-1900,” to the Annual Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, Guelph, Canada, July 2005.

“The Cycle of Life in Ecology: From Romantic Naturphilosophie to the Ages of Gaia,” Guest Lecturer, Franklin and Marshall College, March 2005.

“The ‘Cycle of Life’ in Ecology: Sergei Vinogradskii's Soil Microbiology, 1885-1940,” to the Holmes Workshop, Department of the History of Science and History of Medicine, Yale University, January 2005.

“The Russian Influence on American Soil Science,” invited paper at the Annual Meeting of the Soil Science Society of America, Seattle, WA, November 2004.

“A Classic in Émigré Status: The Curious Intellectual Authority of Sergei Vinogradskii in the 1930s,” at the Conference *Intelligentsia: Russian and Soviet Science on the World Stage, 1860-1960*, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, October 2004.

“Experimental Ecology in Soil Science: The Reception of Sergei Vinogradskii’s ‘Direct Method,’ 1920s-1930s,” to the Annual Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, Vienna, Austria, July 2003.

“Sergei Winogradsky’s ‘Direct Method’ and his International School of Soil Microbiologists,” invited paper at the Annual Meeting of the Soil Science Society of America, Indianapolis, IN, November 2002.

“Sergei Vinogradskii: From the ‘Cycle of Life’ to ‘Microbiological Ecology,’ 1890-1930,” to the Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Denver, CO, November 2001.

“Sergei Vinogradskii and the Cycle of Life, 1885-1905,” to the Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Biology, Department of the History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, April 1999.

“An Interim Period Ends: An Analysis of Theodosius Dobzhansky’s Diaries, 1929-1935,” to the 8th National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, April 1994.

Fellowships and Grants

International Travel Award, to present at the conference “Russian-French Links in Biology and Medicine, Russian Academy of Sciences,” St. Petersburg, Russia, September 2011.

Grant, to organize a Post-Doctoral Working Group, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2005-2006.

Grant, Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, to attend the Woods Hole Biology Seminar “Cosmic Evolution and Astrobiology,” May 2005.

Travel Grant, International Society for the History of Science, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, to present paper, July 2003.

Advanced Graduate Training Fellowship, Social Sciences Research Council, Eurasia Program, for the project “Sergei Vinogradskii and the ‘Cycle of Life,’” 2000-2001.

Travel Grant, History of Science Society/National Science Foundation, to present paper, November 2001.

Invited Speaker Travel Grant, Soil Science Society of America, October 2001.

Grant, Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, to attend the Woods Hole Biology Seminar “Putting Humans into Ecology,” June 2000.

Travel Grant, Joint Atlantic Seminar in the History of Biology, to present paper, April 1999.

University of Minnesota Travel Subsidy, to present paper at the 8th National Conference on Undergraduate Research, April 1994.

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Grant, for the project “A Translation of Theodosius Dobzhansky’s Diaries,” 1993-1994.

Teaching Experience

As Instructor

- *At the Department of History & Politics, Drexel University:*

“U.S. History to 1815”

“U.S. History, 1815-1900”

“Technology in Historical Perspective, 1700-Present”

“Themes in World Civilization I: Human Origins to 1000”

“Themes in World Civilization II: 1000-1700”

“Themes in World Civilization III, 1700-Present”

“History of Science I: Ancient Period to Scientific Revolution” (Online and Face-Face courses)

“History of Science II: Lives in Science”

“Global Ecology,” Upper divisional course.

“Russian History to 1900”

- *To the Science, Technology and Society Program, Drexel University:*

“Introduction to Science and Technology Studies,” Upper divisional course.

“Seminar in Science, Technology, and Society,” Master’s course.

“Masters in Science, Technology, and Society: Practicum.

“Masters in Science, Technology, and Society: Thesis writing.

- *To History Majors, Drexel University:*

“Senior Seminar 1 and II”, Mentoring history major theses.

“Research Methods in History”

- *At the Pennoni Honors Department, Drexel University:*

“History of Evolutionary Thought”

“The Mechanical Body: Machines and Health”

“New Works in Environmental History”

“A Reading of Umberto Eco’s Name of the Rose”

“Darwin’s Origin of Species in Historical Context”

- *In the Program in the History of Medicine and History of Science and the History Department, Yale University:*

“The ‘Cycle of Life:’ A History of Ecology,” Spring 2006.

“Lives in Science: Biography and Creativity,” Fall 2005.

“The ‘Cycle of Life:’ A History of Ecology,” Spring 2005.

- *At the History Department, George Washington University:*

“‘Lives in Science,’ History of Science, 18th-20th Centuries,” Fall 2003.

- *At the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, Johns Hopkins University:*

“History of Modern Medicine, An Historical Approach,” Summer 2002.

- *As Teaching Assistant at the Department of History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, Johns Hopkins University:*

“Lives in Science,” taught one section and delivered two lectures (with Professor Daniel P. Todes), Fall 2002.

“The Automobile Age,” taught two sections (with Professor Stuart W. Leslie), Spring 2002.

“History of Medicine, Ancient Period to the Scientific Revolution,” taught one section (with Professor Jerome Bylebyl), Fall 2000.

“History of Modern Medicine, 18th-20th Century,” taught two sections (with Professors Mary Fissell and Harry Marks), Spring 2000.

“Lives in Science,” taught one section and delivered two lectures (with Professor Daniel Todes), Fall 1999.

“Science in the Western Tradition: The Rise of Modern Science,” taught one section (with Professor Sharon Kingsland), Spring 1999.

“Science in the Western Tradition: Ancient, Medieval, and Early Modern,” taught one section (with Professor Lawrence Principe), Fall 1998.

Student Mentoring

Graduate and Undergraduate Theses; in the Science, Technology, and Society Program, Drexel University; 2006 to Present.

Senior Thesis Program, Department of the History of Science, History of Medicine, Yale University, Fall 2004-Spring 2006.

International Baccalaureate Extended Essay Mentor/Expert Reader, Westwood High School, Austin, Texas, Fall 2002.

Professional Activities

Refereeing

-*Studies in the History of Biology*, Institute of the History of Science, Russian Academy of Sciences, 2011-Present.

-Yale University Press, 2007- Present.

-*Journal of the History of Biology*, 2005-Present.

-New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station; Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2005-Present.

Memberships

-Post-Doctoral Working Group, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, Coordinator, 2005-2007.

-American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, 2002-2007.

-Council on the History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Soil Science (Soil Science Society of America), 2001-2008.

-International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, 2000-Present.
-History of Science Society, 1994-Present.

Participation in Seminars

“Cosmic Evolution and Astrobiology,” Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology Seminar in the History of Biology, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA, May 2005.

Panel Discussion on “Improving Soil Science History: The Interaction between Historians and Soil Scientists,” at the Annual Meeting of the Soil Science Society of America, Seattle, WA, November 2004.

“Workshop: Putting History into Medicine,” Institute of the History of Medicine, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, March 2003.

“Putting Humans into Ecology,” Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology Seminar in the History of Biology, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA, June 2000.