

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Executive Director

The Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science (PACHS)



The American Philosophical Society, and ten Philadelphia-area institutional collaborators seek a **historian of science** (understood broadly) with an entrepreneurial spirit to be the first Executive Director of PACHS. PACHS was conceived as a Center to foster programs that will promote several goals: PACHS will encourage the study of the history of science as documented in the collections and assets of its constituent Philadelphia-area institutions; give doctoral and other fellowships to graduate students and mentor these students as they pursue their academic goals; sponsor or co-sponsor seminars and colloquia; encourage collaboration among the founding institutions; build a cyber-infrastructure that will facilitate the use of on-line resources; and help to interpret science in its broadest sense to the public through real or virtual exhibitions or by other means.

Reporting to an Executive Board representing the collaborating institutions, the Director will shape programs and develop the administrative procedures that will define the Center's activities. The Director will supervise a staff of two, including a .6FTE assistant and a .5FTE technical/web administrator. The Director will also pursue fund raising and development opportunities to enhance PACHS programming and to insure its sustainability, and will oversee the establishment of PACHS as an independent 501(c)3 entity. After an initial start-up phase of two years, we would expect the PACHS director to pursue his or her own research, and/or to teach at one of our university partners, the University of Pennsylvania or Princeton University. PACHS will establish its offices in spaces reserved in the APS's Richardson Hall, located near Independence Hall in Philadelphia, and across the street from the Society's Library — a leading international center for research in the history of American science and technology and its European roots, as well as early American history and culture. The Library houses over 8 million manuscripts, 300,000 volumes and bound periodicals, and thousands of maps and prints — and is but one of eleven establishing institutions whose collective resources are both vast and extraordinary.

Under the auspices of a major grant from the National Science Foundation, and other funding sources, PACHS operating costs are already available for four years. It will be the challenge of the new Executive Director to sustain PACHS past this period.

Starting salary is \$80,000 plus a competitive benefits package, including generous health insurance options, and twenty-one vacation days. The American Philosophical Society is an EOE, and strongly encourages applications from women and minorities. To apply, send letter of application, CV, and three references to:

PACHS Search Committee
c/o Dr. Martin L. Levitt, Librarian
American Philosophical Society Library
105 S. 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3386
mlevitt@amphilsoc.org

The search committee will begin reading applications on November 1, 2006 and will continue to consider candidates until the position is filled.