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HOPOS Newsletter

The History of the Philosophy of Science Working Group

Volume 2, Number 1

February, 1995

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PART I

1.0 Notes from the Editor

Here it is, the latest rendition of the HOPOS Newsletter. On behalf of the Steering Committee, I hope that you find this newsletter to be a convenient way to stay abreast of information relevant to the History of the Philosophy of Science.

As in the past, we are distributing the electronic version of the Newsletter in four separate parts(including this table of contents as Part I) in order not to fill your mailbox with overly long messages. All four parts will be mailed at the same time.

Please pay special attention to the "News from HOPOS" section (Part II) and the "Calls for Papers" section (Part III). The former contains a detailed summary of the HOPOS reorganization activities from the 1994 HSS/PSA/4S meeting in New Orleans, as well as a description of the HOPOS election procedures, and the names of the newly elected Steering Committee members. The latter contains the Call for Papers for HOPOS sponsored sessions at the 1995 HSS Meeting.

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\* The HOPOS Newsletter is published on a semi-annual basis,\*  
\* with issues appearing in Late January/Early February, and\*  
\* in Late July/Early August of each year. Special issues \*  
\* may appear as news warrants. \*

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\* The HOPOS Newsletter is distributed to all subscribers to\*  
\* HOPOS-L, the electronic discussion list of the History \*  
\* of the Philosophy of Science working group. WE \*  
\* ENCOURAGE YOU TO DISTRIBUTE THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOUR \*

\* COLLEAGUES WHO MAY NOT BE AWARE OF HOPOS. \*

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\* You may subscribe to the HOPOS Newsletter in three ways: \*

\* (1) Subscribe to HOPOS-L, and you will receive the \*

\* electronic newsletter automatically. \*

\* (2) You may subscribe to the electronic version of the \*

\* HOPOS Newsletter without subscribing to HOPOS-L by \*

\* sending your requests to the HOPOS Newsletter Editor at \*

\* c430hup@semovm.semo.edu. \*

\* (3) Finally, if the electronic version of the Newsletter\*

\* is for some reason inconvenient, you may choose to \*

\* receive the printed hard copy version of the Newsletter. \*

\* Please send all hard copy requests to David Stump, HOPOS \*

\* Steering Committee Chair, at stumpd@alm.admin.usf.edu \*

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\* For more information about HOPOS or the HOPOS Newsletter, \*

\* or to make suggestions for future newsletters, please \* \*

contact: \*

\* \*

\* William J. McKinney, Ph.D. \*

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\* hoposedit@aol.com \*

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\* Back issues of the HOPOS Newsletter can be obtained by \* \* either  
contacting the Newsletter Editor, or through the \*

\* Science Studies Directory, at gopher kasey.umkc.edu. \*

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PART II

1.0 News from HOPOS

1.1 HOPOS Reorganizes and Elects Steering Committee

The joint HSS/PSA/4S meeting in New Orleans October 13-16

saw a very well attended and productive HOPOS business meeting, at which

we decided on a new organizational structure for the organization. The rationale was simple. Since its "official" inception at the 1992 PSA meeting in Chicago, HOPOS membership has grown to approximately 660, persons, counting both subscriptions to HOPOS-L and the snail-mail version of the newsletter. As new and more efficient organizational structure would allow us to function more efficiently and to contend more effectively with the encouraging but surprising growth of interest in HOPOS.

As reported by Don Howard on HOPOS-L in late October, the major change was to abandon the informal structure that we have used since the 1992 PSA meeting in Chicago, and in its place substitute a formally-organized nine-person steering committee. Every year, three of the nine steering committee members will stand for election, in the procedure described below (2.2).

This academic year, the steering committee is made up of:

\* George Gale, University of Missouri-Kansas City (HOPOS gopher service at UMKC), 1 year term

\* Dan Garber, University of Chicago (Program committee chair, book series editor), 3 year term

\* Don Howard, University of Kentucky (Book series editor, list owner of HOPOS-L), 3 year term

\* Merry Maisel, University of California, San Diego (member at large), 1 year term

\* Bill McKinney, Southeast Missouri State University (HOPOS Newsletter editor), 3 year term

\* Eric Palmer, Allegheny College (member at large), 2 year term

\* Cassandra Pinnick, Western Kentucky University (HOPOS Treasurer), 2 year term

\* Joelle Proust, CNRS Paris (Book series editor), 1 year term

\* David Stump, University of San Francisco (HOPOS Steering Committee Interim Chair, HOPOS Newsletter production and distribution), 2 year term

The Steering Committee enthusiastically elected David Stump to serve as Steering Committee Chair.

Those who attended the New Orleans business meeting can attest to the fact that the crowded lunch tables at the Clarion Hotel indicate a broad enthusiasm for HOPOS. Look to HOPOS-L and the HOPOS Newsletter for future HOPOS developments and endeavors, including the HOPOS Book Series, the upcoming HOPOS Conference at VPI, and the HOPOS book reviews.

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## 1.2 Steering Committee Formulates HOPOS Election Procedures

On December 6 of last year, the Steering Committee established a formal set of election procedures. At its establishment, the HOPOS steering committee will be made up of seven ex officio members and two volunteer at-large members with staggered terms, as described above (see 1.2). The election procedures appear, verbatim, below:

\* Each year, three of the nine steering committee positions will be filled through an election from a set of candidates supplied by a nominating committee. This election will usually be held at the beginning of every fall semester, in advance of the fall HSS and PSA

meetings, which will be the site of HOPOS business meetings in odd and even numbered years, respectively.

\* The chair of the nominating committee, or another election officer to be designated by the Steering Committee, will be responsible for distribution of ballots and for counting returns. Balloting will be conducted by e-mail and regular post. An official announcement of the voting period and a ballot with information about candidates will be made in the HOPOS newsletter and on the HOPOS-L discussion list. E-mail votes will be cast to a designated e-mail address. Paper ballots will be returned to the election officer by regular mail.

\* With the exception of the steering committee chair, there is no fixed relationship between being an officeholder in HOPOS, such as newsletter editor, treasurer, or program committee chair, and being a member of the steering committee. Officeholders in these positions will be chosen by the steering committee. Chair of the steering committee will be re-elected next fall and will serve a two year term.

In the event of a vacancy on the steering committee prior to a scheduled election, the steering committee will choose a person to fill the position on an interim basis.

If you have any questions regarding these election procedures, please

contact any member of the Steering Committee.

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### 1.3 HOPOS Treasurer's Report

The following treasurer's report was circulated to the Steering Committee on Tuesday, January 24 1995:

This is to notify you that an agency account is now established at my campus and that our funds have been deposited in said account. So that everyone won't need to send private inquiries: our balance presently is \$570.35.

The transfer of the e-membership lists is still to be accomplished between Don Howard and me. However, membership monies, inquiries, &c. may be directed to me by any of the means following and I will work with Don to keep our membership lists current in the interim -- as well as keep the funds flowing into the coffers:

Cassandra Pinnick

HOPOS Treasurer

Department of Philosophy  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

office: 502 745-3136

FAX: 502 745-5261

E-mail: [pinnick2@wkuvx1.wku.edu](mailto:pinnick2@wkuvx1.wku.edu)

\*\*\* Please note that I have established a user account designated for HOPOS treasury business, and that the username differs (by the digit "2") from my other e-mail user address. This is to keep HOPOS inquiries, should there be an overwhelming surge of the same :-), out of my principle MAIL account and directory.

If anyone has questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cassandra.

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JUST A REMINDER: IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES TO \* CASSANDRA PINNICK, HOPOS TREASURER \*, AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE. IN THIS WAY, WE CAN CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SERVICES SUCH AS THIS NEWSLETTER, AS WELL AS OTHERS IN THE FUTURE. MANY THANKS.

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## 2.0 Recent HOPOS Sponsored Events

### 2.1 A Full Program in New Orleans

HOPOS sponsored sessions at the New Orleans joint meetings offered a variety of papers.

Laura J. Snyder of Johns Hopkins University organized a HOPOS sponsored HSS session on Friday morning, 8:30-10:10 AM, honoring the bicentennial of William Whewell's birth. Arthur Fine of Northwestern University chaired the session. It featured:

Harvey W. Becher (Northern Arizona University): "William Whewell in Historical Context."

Michael Ruse (University of Guelph): "The Philosophy of the History of Science of William Whewell."

David B. Wilson (Iowa State University): "William Whewell and the Unity of Science."

Laura J. Snyder (Johns Hopkins University): "Whewell's Inductive Philosophy of Science."

HOPOS's own Alan Richardson of the University of British Columbia organized a PSA symposium (not a HOPOS \*sponsored\* session, for PSA does not make provision for such sponsorship) on "Foundational Projects in Mathematics at the Beginning of the 20th Century in their Systematic and Historical Contexts." Held on Saturday morning, 9:00-11:45 AM, the session included:

William Demopoulos (University of Western Ontario): "The Contemporary Interest of an Old Doctrine."

Janet Folina (Macalester College): "The Role of Intuition in Poincare's Philosophy of Mathematics."

Peter Clark (University of St. Andrews): "Hilbert and the Axiomatization of Physics."

Michael Hallett (McGill University): "Hilbert and the Axiomatization of Physics."

Look forward to many more HOPOS sponsored and organized events at future HSS and PSA meetings, and see Part III for the HOPOS/HSS '95 Call for Sessions.

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PART III

1.0 HOPOS-Related Calls for Papers

1.1 HOPOS/HSS Sessions, Minneapolis 1995

HOPOS is planning to sponsor one or more sessions at the next meeting of the History of Science Society in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, October

26-29, 1995. All are invited to submit proposals in any area of the history of the philosophy of science. Those interested in participating should send a brief abstract and a short cv (about half a page) to:

Daniel Garber

Department of Philosophy

University of Chicago

1050 E. 59th St.

Chicago, IL 60637, USA

e-mail: [garb@midway.uchicago.edu](mailto:garb@midway.uchicago.edu)

FAX: 312/702-9861

E-mail submissions are especially encouraged. Please submit any proposals to Dan by March 15, 1995. Individual papers may be submitted, and we will try to match such papers with others of similar themes to form one or more coherent sessions. We would like to encourage groups of scholars to submit complete sessions for possible inclusion. The proposals to be endorsed will be chosen in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Proposals chosen will be submitted to the Program Committee of the History of Science Society with HOPOS endorsement.

NOTE: The HSS now requires all applications to be submitted on their application form. The form appears on p. 7 of the January 1995 HSS Newsletter. If you do not have a copy, send Dan a request and he will FAX or mail a copy to you. When you submit your application, please send or FAX him a copy of the completed form as well.

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## 1.2 AAHPSSS, Sydney 1995

The Australasian Association for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science's Annual Conference will be held at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, from the morning of Saturday July 8 to Tuesday July 11, 1995. They would appreciate early paper submissions, but the final closing date is May 31, 1995. For more information, contact:

Conference Secretary, Dr. David Miller  
School of Science and Technology Studies  
University of New South Wales  
Sydney 2052, Australia  
Phone: +61 2 385 2359  
Fax +61 2 313 7984  
E-mail DP.Miller@unsw.EDU.AU

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### 1.3 \*Psyche\* Special Issues

\*Psyche\*: An interdisciplinary journal of research on consciousness, is compiling a special issue on quantum theories of consciousness. There is interest in either a philosophical critique of such theories or a historical review of the involvement of mind/consciousness in interpretations of quantum mechanics. Contact: Professor Kevin Korb at: [korb@cs.monash.edu.au](mailto:korb@cs.monash.edu.au).

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### 1.4 International HPSST Conference, Minneapolis 1995

This one should be of special interest to HOPOI, since it overlaps with HSS '95 in Minneapolis:

The Third International History, Philosophy, and Science Teaching Conference will be held at the University of Minnesota, October 29 - November 2, 1995. The conference is sponsored by the International History, Philosophy, and Science Teaching Group in cooperation with the

University of Minnesota's College of Education; History of Science and Technology, Institute of Technology; Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science, College of Liberal Arts; and Continuing Education and Extension; and the Bakken Library and Museum. The International History, Philosophy, and Science Teaching Group was established in 1989 at its first international conference held in Tallahassee, Florida. The second conference was held in Kingston, Ontario, Canada in 1992. The group is associated with the Journal "Science and Education" which is devoted to exploring the theoretical and practical contributions that the history and philosophy of science and mathematics can make to science and mathematics education. The group has published proceedings from its two conferences, as well as special issues of a number of academic journals devoted to history, philosophy and science teaching. It has members in more than 30 countries.

Paper proposals are being accepted until March 15, 1995.

For more information, please contact:

Lori Graven

Professional Development & Conference Services

University of Minnesota

218 Nolte Center

315 Pillsbury Drive S.E.

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455-0139, USA

Phone: (612) 625-9023

Fax: (612) 626-1632

E-mail: lgraven@mail.cee.umn.edu

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## 2.0 HOPOS-Related Upcoming Conferences

### 2.1 HOPOS Conference, VPI 1996

The first strictly HOPOS conference is in the works! It is scheduled for April 19-21, 1996 at the Hotel Roanoke Conference Center, Roanoke, Virginia, USA. Look for more news, including a Call for Papers, on HOPOS-L and in the next HOPOS Newsletter. Mark your calendars.

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### 2.2 10th International Congress, Florence 1995

The Tenth International Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science is being held August 19-25 in Florence, Italy. There is a session devoted to the History of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, chaired by Nancy Cartwright. Registration deadline is May 30.

For information, contact:

LMPS 95, C.S.S.

via A. Lapini, 1

50136 Florence, Italy

Phone: +39-55-670182

Fax: +39-55-660236

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### 2.3 ISHPSSB Leuven, Belgium 1995

The biennial meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB) will be held at the University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium from July 19-23, 1995.

Subjects of interest include all areas of biological research and may

address any period of history or region of the world. Papers in previous years have considered research methods, biography, biological imagery, instrumentation, research institutions, epistemology, gender, and bioethics, as well as specialties such as ecology, genetics, cognitive and neurosciences, paleontology and evolution.

Information may be obtained via the Science Studies Directory, through [gopher kasey.umkc.edu](mailto:gopher:kasey.umkc.edu).

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#### 2.4 Leibniz Conference, VPI 1995

The annual conference for the Department of Philosophy of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University is scheduled for March 17-19, 1995. The subject of the conference is "Leibniz in the 1690s: 300 years later."

Expected to participate are:

Brian Baigrie (Toronto), Jan Cover (Purdue), Jack Davidson (Notre Dame), Daniel Fouke (Dayton), Alan Gabbey (Barnard), Daniel Garber (Chicago), Douglas Jesseph (NC State), Sven Knebel (Berlin), Christia Mercer

(Columbia), Michael Murray (Franklin & Marshall), Donald Rutherford (Emory), Robert Sleigh (U Mass); also Roger Ariew, Peter Barker, Richard Burian, Marjorie Grene, Joseph Pitt, Eric Watkins, (all Virginia Tech) and others.

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## 2.5 One Day Conference - Structural Realism at LSE

The Centre for the Philosophy of the Natural and Social Sciences in association with the British Society for the Philosophy of Science announces a One-Day Conference entitled "Structural Realism and the Pessimistic Meta-Induction." The conference will be held Saturday February 18, 1995, from 10:00AM-5.30PM at:

Centre for the Philosophy of the Natural and Social Sciences  
London School of Economics  
Houghton Street  
London WC2A 2AE, UK

Programme

9:30-10:00      Registration

10:00 "Saving Realism against Theory-Change: The  
Case of the  
'Luminiferous Ether'," Dr. John Worrall, LSE

11:00 "Continuity and Discontinuity in Science,"  
Professor Michael Redhead, Cambridge

12:00 Discussion

12:30 Lunch Break

1:30 "Is Structural Realism the Best of Both  
Worlds?" Dr. Stathis  
Psillos, LSE & KCL

2:00 "Structural Realism and the Model-Theoretic  
Approach to  
Scientific Theories," Mr. James Ladyman, Leeds

2:30 "Underdetermination, Poincare and Structural  
Realism," Mr.  
Samet Bagce, LSE

2:50 "Phenomenological Realism vs Structural  
Realism," Mr. Towfic

Shomar, LSE

3:10                                      Tea Break

3:30                                      "The Structures of Realism," Dr. Peter Lipton,  
Cambridge

4:30-5:30                                Panel Discussion (All Participants)

For further information please contact:

Dr. Stathis Psillos

CPNSS

London School of Economics

Houghton Street

London WC2A 2AE, UK

Phone: 071-405-7686 x4684

Fax: 071-955 6869

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2.6 Philosophy of Science in Croatia, 1995

The Annual Philosophy of Science Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia is being held April 10-15, 1995. This years topics are: the Scientific Revolution and the Unity of Science

For further information, contact:

J. Brown

Philosophy

University of Toronto

Toronto M5S 1A1 Canada

E-mail: [kojrb@uwovax.uwo.ca](mailto:kojrb@uwovax.uwo.ca)

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## 2.7 Annual Popper Conference, LSE, 1995

The Annual Conference on the Philosophy of Karl Popper will take place in the Old Theatre at the LSE on Saturday March 11, 1995 from 10:30AM to 6:30PM. For more information, please contact:

Ray Percival

70 Hillview Court

Astley Bridge

Bolton BL1 8NU, UK

Phone: +44-01204-593114

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2.8 Mephistos Graduate Student Conference,  
Bloomington, 1995

MEPHISTOS 1995, the 14th Annual Graduate Student Conference in the Philosophy, History, and Sociology of Science, Technology, and Medicine, and related fields, is being held April 1-2, 1995 at Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana, USA.

The registration fee is \$10, payable to Mephistos. For more information, contact:

Mephistos

Department of History and Philosophy of Science

130 Goodbody Hall

Indiana University

Bloomington, IN 47405

E-mail: [mephisto@indiana.edu](mailto:mephisto@indiana.edu)

\*\*\* Editor's note: Since I chaired the Graduate Student Conference in Bloomington back in 1990, I know what a difficult job it can be! Best of luck to all of the IU grad students back at my \*alma mater\*. -wjm  
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### 2.13 Logical Empiricism in North America -- LENA

Finally, and in just under the wire, Gary Hardcastle sends the following description of the forthcoming LENA conference.

In support of the growing effort to understand logical positivism and logical empiricism in their historical contexts, we propose a conference examining the sociological, historical, philosophical, and political factors involved in the transmission of the logical empiricists and their (notably: Carnap, Feigl, Hempel, Neurath, Reichenbach, and Schlick) ideas to North America in the 1930s. This conference will address such topics as:

\* dominant approaches to science in North America in late 1920s and early 1930s (for example, varieties of pragmatism, the new realism, behaviorism, and the operational outlook);

- \* the character and status of logical positivism and logical empiricism in the late 1920s and early 1930s, just prior to the emigration of the movement out of Austria and Germany;
- \* the changes wrought in logical empiricism as it was brought into contact with various strands of North American thinking about science;
- \* the various strategies, formal and informal, by which logical empiricists established themselves professionally in North America;
- \* the manner by which logical empiricism came to have such a prominent position in North American academia; and
- \* the fate of the distinctly North American approaches to thinking about science mentioned above.

In accord with the aim to address a wide variety of factors relevant to understanding logical empiricism in North America, this conference seeks to include individuals of various specialties, including (and not limited to)

sociologists of knowledge, historians of science, philosophy, and American academic institutions, and philosophers of science.

Tentative details:

Time: Spring or Summer of 1996

Place: Cambridge, MA, USA

Format: Two and one half days, encompassing 10-15 papers

Plans: We aim for the conference to culminate in a published collection of the selected papers.

For further information, contact:

Alan Richardson at [arichardson@ubc.edu](mailto:arichardson@ubc.edu); or

Gary Hardcastle at [garyh@vt.edu](mailto:garyh@vt.edu)

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PART IV

1.0 Of HOPOS Research Interest

1.1 Guide to Science Studies Programs

George Gale has recently announced an added feature to the Science Studies directory, accessible via the gopher at [kasey.umkc.edu](mailto:kasey.umkc.edu).

In addition to the wide variety of services to the worldwide science studies community offered by George's gopher directory at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, a new comprehensive guide to what's available in science studies around the globe is being compiled. Since there is no such guide currently available in any form, UMKC is going to create one, and post it on their kasey gopher. Presenting the guide's information in easy-to-use, downloadable gopher format on the Internet will make this important resource easily available.

The UMKC group is construing "science studies" as broadly as possible, so if you would like your program to be listed and described, send a program description or questions to:

George Gale at [ggale@kasey.umkc.edu](mailto:ggale@kasey.umkc.edu).

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## 1.2 WWW Biographical Dictionary

The World Wide Web Virtual Library for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine now includes the beginnings of a "biographical

dictionary."

To access, point your WWW browser to:

<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/SpecialProj/ASAP/WWWVL-HSTM.html>

If you have any questions on the biographical dictionary, or the WWWVL-HSTM, contact:

Tim.Sherratt@anu.edu.au.

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## 2.0 What is HOPOS?

HOPOS is an international working group of scholars who share an interest in promoting serious, scholarly research on the history of the philosophy of science and related topics in the history of the natural and social sciences, logic, philosophy, and mathematics. We interpret this statement of shared interest broadly, meaning to include all historical periods and diverse methodologies. We aim to promote historical work in a variety of ways, including the sponsorship of meetings and conference sessions, the publication of special issues

of journals, the dissemination of information about libraries, archives,  
and collections, and, as more ambitious projects perhaps become  
feasible, the preparation of bibliographies and finding guides.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. David Stump, HOPOS Steering Committee Interim Chair at  
stumpd@alm.admin.usf.edu

or

Dr. Bill McKinney, HOPOS Newsletter Editor at  
c430hup@semovm.semo.edu; or,  
hopedit@aol.com

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