

LITHUANIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE
LIETUVOS MOKSLO ISTORIKŲ IR FILOSOFŲ BENDRIJA

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A SHORT HISTORICAL SURVEY

The Lithuanian Association of the History and Philosophy of Science (initially the Commission for the History of Natural Science and Technology at the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences - CHNST) was established on October 4, 1950. In 1957-1987 after incorporation the Commission HNST in the Soviet institutions the Lithuanian Association was called Lithuanian Department of Soviet National Society of the History and Philosophy of Natural Sciences and Technology. In 1990 the Baltic Association of the History and Philosophy of Science (BAHPS) and the Baltic Association of the History of Medicine was founded. BAHPS unites national associations of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. In 1993 the Baltic Association officially joined the International Union of the History and Philosophy of Science, Division of History of Science (IUHPS/DHS). Thereafter the BAHPS is the member of the IUHPS/DHS and deputizes here as National Committees of three states.

Since the date of its establishment the Lithuanian AHPS has been chaired by Prof. *Paulius Slavenas* (until his death in 1991), corresponding member of the International Academy of the History of Science. The leader of the Lithuanian AHPS from 1991 to the present day is Prof. *Juozas Algimantas Krikštopaitis*, the President of the Baltic AHPS.

The Lithuanian AHPS has contributed to publication of major works in the history of Lithuanian sciences and to the preparation of expeditions in the Kolyma (Siberia), Lake Baikal, the Pamirs, Altai, the Little Caucasus, and Latin America. The named expeditions explored the activities of prominent explorers and researchers from Lithuania. Each year (since 1994) Lithuanian AHPS organizes a two day conference *Scientia et historia*. The members of Association are participating in many conferences, symposia and international congresses concerning the subjects of the history and philosophy of science and technology.

The active members of Lithuanian AHPS are engaged in several international research programs. They are involved also in the educational and research programs of the Lithuanian Universities and of the other higher educational establishments of the state. The Lithuanian Association unites 52 members (2010) and closely cooperates with the Lithuanian Association of the History of Medicine, and with the Lithuanian Museum of Ethnocosmology.

The main subject of Baltic AHPS and its National Committees: the organization of regular *International Baltic Conferences on the History and Philosophy of Sciences* (initiated by Baltic historians of science in 1958), and *Assemblies*. The regular Baltic conference has been expanded to include participants from all states bordering on the Baltic Sea and have grown to roughly 250 participants. Each of the three Baltic AHPS also organizes special symposiums, meetings and important jubilees associated with scientists or scientific events.

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