

EDITORIAL

This volume contains the invited papers and a selection from the 150 papers that were presented at the *Third International History of Philosophy of Science Conference (HOPOS 2000)*, – held at the Vienna University Campus in Vienna, July 6-9, 2000.

This Third Biennial Meeting of the *History of Philosophy of Science Working Group* was the first HOPOS conference to take place in Europe. It was jointly organized with the *Institute Vienna Circle* and the *Center for Interdisciplinary Research* and the *Department of Contemporary History* of the *University of Vienna*. The meeting brought together researchers in the history of philosophy of science from throughout Europe, America and elsewhere in Vienna, a most important site for the emergence of modern philosophy of science in the days of Mach, Boltzmann and the Vienna Circle. The conference was not easy to organize, and the political turn in Austria at the beginning of 2000 certainly did not make it any easier. After long and intense deliberations, the Program Committee, together with the Steering Committee of HOPOS, decided to issue a declaration in response to the political situation in Austria and to organize two additional special panels. This side program focused on the political context and cultural relevance of philosophy of science, especially with regard to Logical Empiricism from the 1920s to the present. These contributions will be published in a separate volume (*Wissenschaftsphilosophie und Politik. From Central Europe to America Before and After 1938*) co-edited by us and published by Springer Verlag (Wien – New York 2002).

HOPOS 2000 turned out to be an important event, promoting the convergence and cooperation of European and American scholars in the various fields of the history of philosophy of science and reflecting a diversity of scholarly approaches. Accordingly, the reader will find research-oriented contributions on the philosophy of science since Kant and Leibniz, on natural philosophy of the 19th century, on Hilbert's program, and on the Vienna Circle. The contributions of the four invited speakers including the keynote speech and 8th Vienna Circle lecture by Michael Friedman are of more general scope. They deal with ancient and early modern as well as contemporary philosophy of science and concern the development of the notion of law as well as other issues.

The general part of this Yearbook features two studies by renowned scholars: one on Skinner and Bridgman and the other on Wittgenstein's sociology of science. It also contains a section with review essays and reviews in the context of recent philosophy of science. The past and forthcoming activities of the

Vienna Circle Institute are documented as well. We also have the sad duty to commemorate three outstanding scholars, old friends and collaborators of the Institute who died recently: Marie Jahoda, Wesley C. Salmon, and Paul Neurath. Their life and work will remain cornerstones for the scientific community at large, but also for our own research.

As Chairs of HOPOS 2000 we would like to thank the members of the Program Committee (Gary Hatfield, Don Howard, Cassandra Pinnick, Joëlle Proust, G.A. John Rogers, Rose Mary Sargent, Thomas Uebel, and Catherine Wilson) as well as the History of Philosophy of Science Working Group, our local organizing committee (Angelika Rzhacek, Daria Mascha, Margit Kurka, Robert Kaller, and Marianne Ertl). We would also like to express our appreciation to all collaborators and sponsors of the *Third International History of Philosophy of Science Conference* (Austrian Ministry of Science and Research, City of Vienna, the University of Vienna, the Bank Austria), last not least the editorial team of this Yearbook (Hartwig Jobst, Camilla Nielsen, Erich Papp) and the review editor Michael Stöltzner.

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