



MINUTES OF THE GIS SOCIABILITES ANNUAL MEETING

December 15, 2023

Université Paris Cité, Bâtiment Olympe de Gouges 8, Place Paul-Ricoeur, 75013 PARIS

Room 830, LARCA 14:00-17:00

Present: Valérie Capdeville (UR2), Michèle Cohen (UCL), Louise Fang (USPN), Christopher Fletcher (UDL), Nicolas Guyard (UPVM), Mascha Hansen (UG), John-Erik Hansson (UPCité), Sabrina Juillet-Garzon (USPN), Alain Kerhervé (UBO), Clara Manco (UPCité), Sophie Mesplède (UR2), J-P Moreux (BNF), Jess Nelson (TNA), Kimberley Page-Jones (UBO), Jennifer Ruimi (UPVM), Phil Withington (SH).

Zoom: Vanessa Alayrac-Fielding (UDL), Marion Amblard (UGA), Brian Cowan (McGill), Peggy Davis (GRHS), Sebastian Domsch (Greifswald), Florence Magnot-Ogilvy (UR2), Naomi Pullin (Warwick), Eleonora Sasso (UdA), Miriam Sette (UdA).

Meeting starts and finishes on time.

1. GIS PARTNERSHIP

➤ Composition of GIS network

17 GIS partners: UBO Brest (UBO) ; Université Sorbonne Paris Nord (USPN) ; Musée Cognacq-Jay (MCJ) ; University of Warwick (WAR) ; Universität Greifswald (UG) ; McGill University (MCG) ; Groupe en Histoire des Sociabilités (GRHS) ; Università 'Gabriele d'Annunzio' – Chieti-Pescara (UdA) ; Université Paris Cité (UPCité) ; Université Rennes 2 (UR2) ; Sorbonne Université (SU) ; Université de Lille (UDL) ; University of Sheffield (SH) ; Université Grenoble Alpes (UGA) ; The National Archives (TNA) ; *Université Paul Valéry Montpellier 3 (UPVM) ; *Bibliothèque nationale de France (BNF) (*New partners 2023)

➤ Introduction of new GIS partners

- Université Paul Valéry Montpellier 3

- **IRCL** (Institute for Research on the Renaissance, the Neo-classical Age and the Enlightenment) – UMR 5186

Research activities covering the European early modernity from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment: genealogies and contemporary issues.

Cultural environments in mutation (16th-18th centuries) / Traditions, their circulation, transmission and translation in Europe (16th-18th centuries) / Contemporary approaches to early modernity in a globalized world

- **CRISES** (Centre de Recherches Interdisciplinaires en Sciences Humaines et Sociales) – EA 4414

Studying the phenomena revolving around the concept of crisis in the long history of human societies, from Antiquity to the present day.

Croyances, représentations collectives et lien social / La fabrique des territoires / Changements et devenir des formes et des savoirs / Humanités environnementales, représentations, constructions et pratiques sociales de la nature

- **Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF)**

To carry on fruitful collaborations between researchers, curators and students

To enhance valorisation of BnF collections, in connection with TNA and MCJ

BUT departure of Isabelle Le Pape, who is actively looking for a new GIS contact...

- **Potential future partners?**

- Université Bordeaux Montaigne (contacts: Rémy Duthille, Laurence Machet)
- Université Côte d'Azur (contacts: P-Y Beaurepaire, Emmanuelle Peraldo)
- University of Birmingham (contacts: Tom Cutterham, Ben Jackson, Karen Harvey)
- Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rennes?

2. PROGRESS REPORT ON ACTIVITIES 2023

- **DIGITENS CLOSING CONFERENCE: 'Sociabilities on the Move in the Long Eighteenth Century (1650-1850)', 8-9 December 2022, Université de Bretagne Occidentale Brest**

- **Keynotes:**

- Sarah Goldsmith (University of Edinburgh)

- Paul Stock (London School of Economics and Political Science)
- Tim Hitchcock (University of Sussex): Professor of Digital History = talk before official [Launch of DIGIT.EN.S](#)

- **Proposal for collective volume submitted to Boydell & Brewer: ‘Sociabilities on the Move (1650-1820)’**: 12 chapters in 3 sections (‘Moving Bodies and Sociable Forms’ / ‘Circulating Knowledge and Network Formation’ / ‘Displaced Sociabilities in Revolutionary Times’): under review
- **A second publication project for an online journal on sociabilities in travel writing?** (potentially 6 to 9 articles)

➤ **CYCLE OF TALKS AT MCJ**

"La sociabilité dans tous ses états : intimité, plein air, horizons lointains" (20 April/22 June/7 Sept. 2023)

1/ Claire Ollagnier (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne) : "À l'intérieur. La demeure comme miroir de l'intime"

2/ Pierre-Yves Beaurepaire (Université Côte d'Azur / IUF) : "La familiarité du lointain. Voyager, explorer, collectionner au siècle des Lumières"

3/ Jan Synowiecki (Université de Caen Normandie) : "Se divertir sous les frondaisons des arbres : vauxhalls et jardins-spectacles à Paris dans la seconde moitié du XVIIIe siècle"

➤ **SCIENTIFIC EVENTS**

- International Study Day: ‘Les voyageurs européens en Europe. Perception(s), confrontation(s), représentation(s) - 1600-1840’ (26 May 2023). Co-organised by Sabrina Juillet, Marion Amblard (USPN) & Gilles Montègre, Philippe Prudent (Université Grenoble Alpes)
- International conference: ‘L’Asie fantasmée. Circulations, appropriations artistiques et culturelles (17e – 21e siècles). Perspectives pluridisciplinaires’ (31 May-1-2 June 2023). Organised by Musées de Marseille, in partnership with Université de Lille (CECILLE) and supported by Institut de Recherches Asiatiques (IrAsia, AMU-CNRS)

- International conference: 'Sociability in Politics, Food and Travel in the Early Modern Era' (8-10 June 2023). Organised by Naomi Pullin & Charles Walton at the University of Warwick. Keynote lectures: Dena Goodman (University of Michigan) & Rebecca Earle (Warwick)
- GIS Sociabilités Study Day (22 June 2023), at BnF
 - working sessions with GIS members and curators on GIS Scientific programme and scheduling of events 2023-26 / 4 thematic strands
 - Meeting of the GIS Scientific Council
- International Study Day: 'Les voyageurs européens en Amérique du Nord. Perception(s), confrontation(s), représentation(s) - 1600-1840' (10 novembre 2023). Organised by Sabrina Juillet, Edouard Guionnet (USPN) & Alice Lemer Fleury (U de Nantes), Campus Condorcet (USPN)
- International Study Day: 'Sociable objects in Britain and Europe (1650-1850)' (23 novembre 2023). Organised by Vanessa Alayrac-Fielding & Pierre Labrunne (Université de Lille).

➤ PUBLICATIONS

- ***La fabrique des sociabilités en Europe et dans les colonies : espaces et identités (XVIIIe-XIXe siècles)*** (dir. Valérie Capdeville & Kimberley Page-Jones), Presses de l'Université de Montréal, April 2023. *In open-access*
- ***Sociability and the Discourses of Nature in the Long Eighteenth-Century*** (ed. J. Lipski, T. Adamczewski & K. Wood), *Literature & History*, 32.2 (2023).
- ***Amitiés épistolaires*** (dir. Alain Kerhervé & Véronique Léonard-Roques), Presses Universitaires de Rennes, *forthcoming 2024*.
- ***Les Règles du jeu dans la France et l'Angleterre des 17e et 18e siècles*** (dir. Line Cottenies, Clara Manco, & Alexis Tadié), Classiques Garnier, *forthcoming 2024*.

3. ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR 2024-2026 (THEMATIC STRANDS)

➤ NEW CYCLE OF TALKS AT MCJ

- 5-6 sessions of talks in parallel with the exhibition: ***Luxe de poche : La mode des boîtes, tabatières, étuis et petits objets de luxe au siècle des Lumières*** (29 March-29 September 2024) : in preparation...

➤ **SCIENTIFIC EVENTS**

- International conference: 'La table dans les littératures et arts du monde anglophone' / 'A table! : Eating and culinary practices in the literatures and arts of the English-speaking world' (24-26 April 2024). Organised by research unit VALE, at Sorbonne Université.
- International Study Day: 'Eating or not Eating Animals. Sociability and Ethics around the Table' (6 June 2024). Organised by Florence Magnot-Ogilvy (CELLAM) and Sophie Mesplède (ACE) at Rennes 2.
- International Study Day: 'Voyageurs européens dans le reste du monde/Terras Incognitas, 1600-1850' (14 June 2024). Organised by Marion Amblard (ILCEA4), Sabrina Juillet-Garzon (PLEIADE), Gilles Montègre (LUHCIE), at BnF Richelieu.

➤ **IN PROJECT FOR 2024-26**

- **Strand 1:**
 - **Interdisciplinary seminar on 'The Politics of the Sociable Self'** (June 2024 – June 2026). 14 sessions -Brest, Rennes, Paris and London. See document shared on drive.
- **Strand 2:**
 - **2 online workshops** / One for GIS members + 1 about historiography of food/sociability studies
 - **International Study Day - Spring 2025: @Sheffield on "Rituals and consumption performance"**
 - **International Study Day - September 2025: @Montpellier on "Food and Health"**
- **Strand 3:**
 - MA/ PhD Study day organised @Lille in October 2024
 - International conference « L'objet du voyage » end 2025 (?) **organised with strand 4:** to be discussed and defined
- **Strand 4:**
 - Seminar @BnF on Travel and Migration: cycle open to public (Isabelle Le Pape): exact format and dates to be defined if BnF still interested.
- **Intersectoral projects around collections:**
 - Jessica Nelson, TNA: potential archives on Food & drink & intoxicants and also on colonial travel & contact with indigenous populations.

Example: Prize papers (collections seized from ships during the war. Mail never delivered. Letters, objects, coffee beans...: interest of content and materiality)

- Hosting a study day on Sociability & distance / colonial travel @TNA: including one of the sessions of the 'Sociable Self' seminar + workshop on TNA collections.

- **Anticipate GIS International conference: May-June 2026, to close the 2022-26 scientific programme.**

2 possible topics:

- Sociability and technological innovation / the impact of technological progress on social relations and interactions: impact of print culture, development of transport, scientific and medical breakthroughs, industrial revolution (long eighteenth century to present-day perspectives)

- Sociability and environment (concept of nature, human nature, animals, climate, national character, health)

+ Louise Fang mentions architectural inventions; Clara Manco / machineries in theatre; Michèle Cohen / school books and print culture

+ Idea of connecting technology and environment; history of science and technologies (Liliane Hilaire-Perez?) Scientific breakthroughs also generating transformations on social interactions and natural environments.

= All GIS members favourable to such a stimulating and original topic, will need to be refined.

➤ PUBLICATION PROJECTS

- ***Emotions and the City: Urban Sociability in Britain and France c. 1650-c.1850*** (ed. P. Bastien & B. Cowan), Monograph series: 'Routledge Studies in Eighteenth-Century Cultures and Societies', *under contract*.

- ***Sociability, Emotions and Publics in Early Modernity*** (Brian Cowan), McGill-Queens University Press, *under contract*, for 3 volumes (+ *Sociability, Personae and Publics in Early Modernity; Sociability, Writing and Publics in Early Modernity*)

- ***Sociabilities on the Move (1650-1820)*** (ed. Valérie Capdeville, Stéphane Jettot & Kimberley Page-Jones), *under review by Boydell*.

- ***Dance, Music, Song & Sociability (1750-1832)*** (eds. Ian Newman & Mark Philp), *in progress*

- ***Before Suffrage. Women, Politics & Society in Europe 1789-1850*** (eds. Mark Philp & Anne Verjus), *in progress*

4. LAUNCH OF NEW GIS INTERDISCIPLINARY SEMINAR 2024-26

- An efficient working session took place in the morning devoted to the choice of themes and to the organisation and scheduling of the seminar sessions: 16 GIS members attending.
- **Format:** 14 sessions - Seminar running for 2 years - 1 or 2 speakers - 2 chairs/moderators from GIS Sociabilités - in Paris/Brest/Rennes/London - In-person session with Zoom access or Zoom-only.
- **Title:** ‘The Politics of the ‘Sociable Self’: Theories and Practices (1650-1850)’
- **Aims:**
 - to explore the formation and evolution of the concept of a ‘sociable self’ during the long eighteenth century (1650-1850)
 - to historicize theories of sociability by grounding them in social practices so as to understand their mutual influence
 - to examine the role of sociability in the definition of social bonds and civic practices (sense of belonging, social attachment, national affection, public engagement)
 - to explore how these concepts and practices were subject to debate, contest and change.
- The first two sessions will be brainstorming sessions on the concepts, from secondary sources and from primary sources. Speakers will start being invited from session 3.
- *More details on document shared on drive*

5. POTENTIAL FUNDING SCHEMES 2025-26

Many funding schemes on topics of loneliness (‘distressing feeling of being alone or separated’) and social isolation (‘lack of social contacts’), a major contemporary challenge in post-covid era: Horizon Europe, Fondation de France ... Yet EU funding schemes consider rather contemporary societies (social networks, impact of IA, democracies in crisis).

- **ANR AAPG** (Appel à projets génériques 2024). Two stages (pre-proposal (October) / detailed proposal (March)). Field ‘Sciences humaines et sociales’ / Strand D.6. Etudes du passé, patrimoines, cultures. Takes into account ‘strategic priorities’ defined by the State. 3 criteria: ‘Qualité et ambition scientifique / Organisation et réalisation du projet / Impact et retombées du projet’.
- **ANR HERA** (Humanities in the European Research Area. Call for proposals: ‘Crisis – Perspectives from the Humanities’). Two stages: September / March. Focus on crises (past and present) and responses to crises by individuals, communities ... Consortium of min. of 4 partners — Duration: bet. 24 and 36 months. 3 criteria: research excellence, impact of the proposed research and quality of the implementation and management.
- **Check out other funding schemes:**
 - COST Action: <https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions/what-are-cost-actions>
 - Synergy Grant (ERC): <https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant/synergy-grant>

6. EVOLUTION OF DIGIT.EN.S PLATFORM



Alain presented the V2 of the DIGIT.EN.S platform with its new features and evolutions: creation of an Anthology home page ; development of Anthology entries ; image gallery ; refined search by keyword and new filters.

7. GIS SOCIABILITY WEBSITE



8. GIS MASTER'S THESIS PRIZE

➤ MA PRIZE 2022

Laureate: Camille Payeur (UQAM-GRHS)

Title of MA thesis : “Femmes, musique et franc-maçonnerie à la Société Olympique : enquête sur la sociabilité maçonnique et musicale parisienne à l'aube de la Révolution française”

Supervision: Pascal Bastien & Lyse Roy

➤ MA PRIZE 2023

▪ **Schedule 4th edition**

Application deadline: 31 January 2024

Reviewing process: April-May 2024

Result: mid-June 2024

▪ **Composition of jury**

President 2020-23: Michèle Cohen (UCL, Institute of Education)

We warmly thank Michèle for presiding the Prize jury for 3 years with such enthusiasm and dedication.

New President 2023-26: Brian Cowan (McGill)

2 reviewers for each application, following several criteria:

- Topic originality
 - Contribution of the thesis to sociability studies
 - Quality of the analysis proposed
 - Relevance of methodology adopted and use of theoretical framework
 - Structure of the argument and writing skills
- **Prize: 500 € + contribution to DIGIT.EN.S encyclopedia entries**

9. GIS BUDGET

BALANCE 2022 + 9497,15€

➤ **2022-23 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

GIS PARTNERS	GIS 2022 INCOME	TYPES OF EXPENSES	Jan – Dec. 2023
UBO Brest	1000	DIGIT.EN.S platform annual maintenance + hosting fees (Blue2i)	936
Université Sorbonne Paris Nord	1000	New GIS website	3650
McGill University	1000	Warwick Conference June 2023	1371,98
Greifswald University	1000	Subsidies for other GIS partners' events	500
GRHS-UQAM	650*	Cycles of talks at MCJ 2023	998,65
Université Gabriele d'Annunzio	1000	GIS Study Day 22 June	1805,23
Warwick University	1000	GIS Master's Thesis Prize 2022	500
Musée Cognacq-Jay	0	GIS Annual Meeting 2023	1009,60
Université Paris Cité	1000	Zoom + OVH 2023 subscription	176,27
Université Rennes 2	1000	TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES	10.947,73
Sorbonne Université	1000		
Université de Lille	1000		
University of Sheffield	1000		
Université Grenoble-Alpes	1000		
The National Archives	500		
TOTAL INCOME	13.150€		

* GRHS-UQAM 2022 and 2023 fees have been used to pay for work on DIGIT.EN.S platform by 2 GRHS students

➤ 2023-24 PROVISIONAL BUDGET

Balance Dec. 2023

+ 11.699,42€

GIS PARTNERS	GIS 2023 INCOME
UBO Brest	1000
Université Sorbonne Paris Nord	1000
McGill University	1000
Greifswald University	1000
GRHS-UQAM	650*
Université Gabriele d'Annunzio	1000
Warwick University	1000
Musée Cognacq-Jay	0
Université Paris Cité	1000
Université Rennes 2	1000
Sorbonne Université	1000
Université de Lille	1000
University of Sheffield	1000
Université Grenoble-Alpes	1000
The National Archives	500
Université P V Montpellier 3	1000
BNF	1000
TOTAL INCOME	15.150€

BUDGETED EXPENSES	Jan – Dec. 2024
DIGIT.EN.S & GIS websites maintenance + hosting fees (Blue2i)	1200
DIGIT.EN.S platform development V2 (Blue2i)	3000
GIS interdisciplinary seminar 2024	2000
Subsidies for other GIS partners' events	3000
Cycles of talks at MCJ 2024	2000
Publications	3000
GRHS contribution (2022 + 2023) to translation or other fees	1300
GIS Master's Thesis Prize 2023	500
GIS Annual Meeting 2024	1500
Zoom + OVH 2024 subscription	180
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES	17.680€

BALANCE 2022	INCOME 2022	EXPENSES 2023	BALANCE 2023
+ 9497,15€	+ 13.150€	- 10.947,73	+ 11.699,42€

10. CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT / AMENDMENT #7

- **Amendment#7 finalized and sent to all partner institutions for signature on Dec. 21, 2023. YouSign procedure accepted by some partners, others will provide scanned signed page in pdf format.**
- **Several changes brought to the GIS Founding Agreement, approved by vote by Board on 11 Oct. 2023**

- 1) Change of administrative and financial domiciliation (articles 8.2, 8.3 and 16 of the Founding Agreement and article 2 of Amendment #2): from 1 January, 2024, the administrative and financial management of the GIS is ensured by Rennes 2.
- 2) Modifications of the duration of elective terms (articles 6.1; 6.2 and 7.1): duration of elective terms for members of Board and Scientific Council and of the GIS Director changed to '3 years minimum, renewable'.
- 3) Modifications of the decision-making procedures (article 5.1.2): extension of timeframe for sending the minutes and report of decisions for each annual meeting, from 15 to 30 days.
- 4) Addition of 2 paragraphs about intellectual property (co-ownership of collective research work, specificity of DIGIT.EN.S)

11. GIS DIRECTION (see vote)

12. COMPOSITION OF GIS GOVERNING BODIES (BOARD AND SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL)

<p>BOARD</p> <p>President: Charles Walton, WAR</p> <p>Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Alain Kerhervé, UBO -Louise Fang, USPN -Peggy Davis, GRHS -Nicholas Dew, MCG -Charles Walton, WA -Sixtine de Saint-Léger, MCJ -Mascha Hansen, UG -Eleonora Sasso, UdA -Sophie Mesplède, UR2 -John-Erik Hansson, UPCité -Alexis Tadié, SU -Christopher Fletcher, UDL -Kate Davison, SH -Gilles Montègre, UGA -Jess Nelson, TNA -Nicolas Guyard, UPVM -Jean-Philippe Moreux, BnF 	<p>SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL</p> <p>Chair: Kimberley Page-Jones, UBO</p> <p>Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Kimberley Page-Jones, UBO -Sabrina Juillet Garzon, USPN -Ersy Contogouris, GRHS -Brian Cowan, MCG -Naomi Pullin, WAR -Sixtine de Saint-Léger, MCJ -Sebastian Domsch, UG -Miriam Sette, UdA -Florence Magnot-Ogilvy, UR2 -Clara Manco, UPCité -Stéphane Jettot, SU -Vanessa Alayrac-Fielding, UDL -Phil Withington, SH -Marion Amblard, UGA -Philippa Hellowell, TNA -Jennifer Ruimi, UPVM -?
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Newly elected members or members who changed positions
 New partners' representatives

13. CREATION OF NEW RESPONSIBILITIES AMONG GIS MEMBERS

➤ **GIS Management Team: Director, President of Board, Chair of Scientific Council**

+ 4 new members / specific administrative and scientific functions

- Short monthly meetings to coordinate action and communication
- Invited as guests to GIS annual meetings

1) **General secretary:** Drafting of minutes, sending of meeting notices, agenda and proxy, diffusion of information and decisions from the GIS director and governing bodies

2) **Communication 1:** In charge of promotion of GIS scientific activity (events, publications, etc.): advertising via partner institutions, learned societies and social networks

3) **Communication 2:** In charge of GIS quarterly newsletter

4) **Webmaster:** In charge of maintaining the GIS Sociabilités website (making content updates, publishing GIS events, managing/feeding thematic pages in contact with strand coordinators)

- **Sophie Mesplède (UR2) has accepted to be general secretary.**
- **Clara Manco & John-Erik Hansson (UPCité) will be in charge of communication 1 & 2 as well as managing the GIS website. They will decide if they continue sharing the 3 tasks after 2 or 3 newsletters or if they need someone else.**

14. VOTES (BOARD)

Votes by members of the Board only before new elections: 15 members, but only 14 voting, Gilles Montègre (UGA) being absent with no proxy received.

Proxies received from members of the Board: Alexis Tadié (SU), Eleonora Sasso (UG), Pascal Bastien (GRHS), Sixtine de St Léger (MCJ), Thierry Rentet (USPN), Charles Walton (WAR), Kate Davison (SH), Chris Fletcher (UD).

- Election / GIS direction: V. Capdeville renewed as Director for 3 years = **YES 14/14**
- Vote / new composition of GIS governing bodies = **Approved 14/14**
- Vote / 2023-24 provisional budget = **Approved 14/14**