School of History and Sociology @ Georgia Institute of Technology Seeks Chair

The School of History and Sociology (HSOC) at the Georgia Institute of Technology seeks a Chair to lead a dynamic and innovative faculty composed of sociologists and historians. HSOC is a unique interdisciplinary unit, with an intellectual culture of cross-pollination between sociological and historical scholarship, as well as multidisciplinary work in science and technology studies. Our degree programs reflect this expertise and focus: B.S. in History, Technology and Society (HTS) and M.S. and PhD. in History and Sociology of Technology and Science (HSTS). Located within the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, our courses encourage students to think critically as they engage with pressing matters of social concern. (More information about the School can be found at: http://www.hsoc.gatech.edu).

The School is constituted through five clusters of faculty expertise.

(1) History of Technology / Engineering and Society. Researchers in this cluster situate technology and engineering in social, political, and economic context, past and present, with an emphasis on Europe and the United States since 1850, while actively linking past experiences to contemporary issues and concerns.

(2) Global Cities and Urban Society. These scholars examine urban societies in the twentieth- and twenty-first centuries in locations such as Atlanta, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, London, Shanghai, and Cairo. With a focus on the interplay of society, culture, and politics, these researchers seek to comprehend how cities function and how their diverse residents pursue social change.

(3) Agriculture, Health, and the Environment. Members of this group take an interdisciplinary approach to the interrelated issues of nutrition, environmental sustainability, medicine and disease. Blending history and sociology, they offer perspectives on grand global challenges, such as the provision of food and the control of epidemics while also examining how events on the ground impact individuals.

(4) Modern Global History / Science, Technology, and Nationalism. These scholars examine global society and politics since the turn of the twentieth century. The group focuses on the interplay of science and technology with evolving political ideals and practical governmental arrangements within the study of Europe but with important links to Asia, the Middle East, and the Americas.

(5) U.S. Society and Politics/Policy Perspectives. These experts study politics and social movements both historically and in the contemporary United States. Some faculty in this cluster concentrate specifically on technology, science, and the economy, while others examine struggles for racial justice and human rights.

The Institute’s location in Atlanta, Georgia, offers a tapestry of experiences, diverse neighborhoods, and resources that inspire and facilitate faculty research and student learning. Atlanta enjoys a rich history as the center of the U.S. Civil Rights movement. Today, Atlanta is a hub of innovation in many endeavors, including information technologies, global media, and health infrastructure. After decades of cultivating a vital place for History and Sociology at the Georgia Institute of Technology, a premier technologically focused research university in this thriving global city, we seek a leader who can raise our profile among a variety of constituencies by highlighting our distinctive approaches to sets of pressing concerns of local and global significance. In particular HSOC faculty and students seek an experienced leader who can help to animate and more broadly promote our areas of scholarly expertise to a range of communities and academic constituencies, including at Georgia Tech. We also seek a Chair who will assist faculty in growing the HTS undergraduate major and HSTS graduate program, guide the development of innovative curricula and School initiatives, and secure new partnerships that will lead to internships and employment opportunities for our students as well as strengthen HSOC’s bonds with Atlanta. Our ultimate aim is to secure a visionary leader committed to interdisciplinary collaboration who will nurture an enriching environment in which faculty and students continue to develop deep understandings of the historical, social, and cultural processes at play in scientific, technical, and other human endeavors spanning local to global domains. The job announcement for this HSOC Chair position can be found at: http://www.iac.gatech.edu/.