



Doctoral Colloquium for History and Epistemology of Education

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The Hartzman International Conference Travel Award enables SoE graduate students to present their work at international conferences. It is made possible through generous support from Marlene and Robert Hartzman.



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HARTZMAN AWARD HIGHLIGHT

J AIS BROHINSKY

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

I write with deep gratitude for the financial support without which I could not have attended the Doctoral Colloquium for History and Epistemology of Education in Vienna this September. The Colloquium brings together leading scholars and doctoral candidates from across three continents.

The paper I presented reports on initial work for a chapter in my dissertation project, which engages the histories of science and education to explore the development of experience through knowledge-making and pedagogical practices from the 17th through the 19th centuries. My presentation was warmly received by faculty and students from these universities, all of whom offered constructive criticism, suggestions, and support. Their questions and suggestions helped me to focus my analysis on a set of archival materials and to be more explicit and careful in framing the overall project. It was extremely helpful to explain this context to a group unfamiliar with the assumptions of US education and to learn what was useful about my approach and what could be changed.

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I am extremely grateful to the other graduate students that participated in the colloquium. Not only did their different historical approaches and analyses push my thinking about source selection and interpretation, but some of their projects have enough overlap that we could productively share sources and even recommend particularly relevant sections of primary texts. I am confident that these connections will not only lead to fruitful exchange of materials but to collaborative publications and projects in the future.

The faculty members were also supportive and generous with their time and comments. They pushed me to more clearly articulate the personal space and contemporary problem from which this project arose, a task that I believe, though difficult, will be crucial to sustaining this project, not to mention helping it grow. Several people were particularly helpful and supportive. Each in their own way pushed me to deepen my analysis while simultaneously offering support and further communication, including to read chapters as they are drafted in the upcoming year. I believe the colloquium was so generative that ideas will continue to cohere in the upcoming months and in continued communication with the other participants.