

Roberto Lalli – Statement

Dear members of the ESHS,

I am extremely honored to be nominated as Public Relations (PR) Officer of the European Society for the History of Science. Building on the successful activities of previous PR Officers and on my own experience in the boards of various societies and committees (including the ESHS), I will try to pursue main objectives that go in the direction of strengthening the relationships between the ESHS and other institutions devoted to the history of science—especially national and regional societies for the history of science in Europe, but also international societies as well as committees of international unions and national or international scientific societies. The goal is twofold. The first is to improve communication and coordination of the activities in the history of science within Europe and more globally so that the ESHS increases its role as an arena for extensive information sharing and discussion on such activities. The second is to promote the society as well as to increase its visibility and presence in the activities of the history of science in Europe and more globally. Some of the strategies I will pursue are the following: a) to establish more continuous contacts with the national societies in the history of science, b) to attempt increasing the institutional membership of the society; c) to enlarge the sponsorship of the ESHS for activities in our disciplines; d) to cooperate closely with other ESHS officers to ameliorate the public visibility of the society in virtual settings; e) to cooperate closely with the webmaster to make the ESHS website a central node in the information about the activities on the history of science in Europe, through the construction of databases. I am extremely motivated to create more links between us for the future of history of science in Europe and if you elect me, I will spare no energy to this end.

Berlin, 15 August 2020

Roberto Lalli

Roberto Lalli – Short CV

Roberto Lalli is a historian of science whose work focuses on the interaction of epistemic and social factors the history of twentieth-century physics. After receiving a PhD in International History in 2011 at the University of Milan he was Postdoctoral Fellow in the History of Modern Physical Sciences at the MIT's Program in Science, Technology and Society (2011-2013). Since 2013, he has been a Research Scholar at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. Since 2017, he has been Visiting Scholar in the Research Program on the History of the Max Planck Society and contracted Visiting Lecturer at the Technische Universität Berlin. He has published extensively on various topics in the history of modern physics, scientific publishing, and science diplomacy. His papers have been published in journals such as *Annals of Science*, *HSNS*, *Isis*, *Notes and Records*, *Annalen der Physik*, *Nature Astronomy*, and *Nature Reviews Physics*. His first monograph (Springer 2017) offers a new perspective on the issue of science diplomacy through the history of the international community of scientists working on general relativity during the Cold War. Since 2014, he has been one of the three coordinators of an inter-institutional research program on the post-WWII history of general relativity. In this capacity, he co-organized a large conference for the centenary anniversary of general relativity in 2015, was one of the guest editors of the open-access special issue of *European Physical Journal H* entitled "The Renaissance of Einstein's

Theory of Gravitation,” and is currently co-editing a volume in the *Einstein Studies* series. He is co-editing a Centaurus special issue titled Global Perspectives on Science Diplomacy that will be published in January 2021. He has received fellowships and research grants from various institutions, including the Center for History of Physics, CalTech, and the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute. He has organized numerous scholarly meetings and received about thirty invitations to present his research in international conferences and seminars. In 2018 he was a plenary speaker at the III International Conference on History of Physics. Roberto Lalli is currently an elected member of the Physical Sciences Forum of the HSS, of the Scientific Board of the ESHS, of the History of Physics Group of the European Physical Society, of the Executive Board of the Italian Society for the History of Physics and Astronomy (SISFA) and is a member of the DHST Commission for Science, Technology, and Diplomacy.