



SICU2
An International Workshop on
Historic Scientific Instrument Collections
in the University
21-24 June 2007
Oxford, Mississippi, USA



**Sponsored by The Scientific Instrument Commission
and The University of Mississippi
with funding from the National Science Foundation.**
Hosted by The University of Mississippi

CALL FOR PAPERS - OCTOBER 2006

The first conference on Scientific Instrument Collections in Universities (SICU) was held at Dartmouth College in 2004. The SICU1 conference began addressing some of the unique challenges faced by those who deal with university collections. **The purpose of the SICU2 workshop is to continue solidifying the foundation for finding, describing, organizing, preserving, and utilizing the vast resource of historic scientific instruments that reside in academic institutions.** These instruments are a vital part of our academic, cultural and scientific heritage.

The SICU2 workshop will draw from a wide community of scientists, historians, curators, archivists, educators, and collectors to achieve the following:

1. increased access to more collections by encouraging scientists and educators to become more involved in efforts to expand scholarly research using historical instruments.
2. improved security and preservation of more collections by expanding efforts to build a practical resource for stewardship of historical instruments.
3. increased use and appreciation of more collections by developing and sharing creative ways of exhibiting, reproducing, studying, and recognizing historical instruments.
4. improved resources for using collections across a broad range of disciplines and purposes.

Along with invited panels, there will be presentation and discussion of contributed papers and posters.

The Steering Committee invites abstracts for papers and posters in the following themes:

- a. **Scholarly Significance of University Collections**, their instruments, acquisition practices, and the people who create and care for them – e.g., reports of historical research, recently discovered collections, the role of scientists and educators, and international experiences.
- b. **Preservation Challenges** – stewardship issues and example solutions, from all perspectives; organizing and managing your collection, and building institutional and financial support.
- c. **Improving Access to and Uses of Collections** – reports of innovative efforts in demonstrating, teaching, studying, and reaching the public with historic instruments, including the use of digital and web-based technologies.

Scientists, junior scholars, advanced graduate and undergraduate students, and people from outside academia are particularly encouraged to participate. Please submit abstracts of 300 words or less via email or attachment to sicu2@olemiss.edu by **15 December 2006**.

The preliminary workshop program plus information about registration, travel stipends, and workshop highlights are available at <http://www.olemiss.edu/~sicu2web/>.