

# Call for Papers

The history of physics section of the German Physical Society  
*Fachverband Geschichte der Physik der Deutschen Physikalischen Gesellschaft*  
and

The history of chemistry unit of the Society of German Chemists  
*Fachgruppe Geschichte der Chemie der Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker*

are hosting a joint conference from 24–26 March 2009 in Göttingen on

## The History of Materials Research

Materials are at once the focus and tool of research in science and technology. They are raw materials or products of artisanal and industrial manufacture. They express cultural meaning even as they serve as its medium. So materials are the concern of historians of science and technology no less than that of historians of everyday life and culture. Some attention has already been devoted to them, for instance, in writing a history of things. Much of this work centers around experimental processes and technical instrumentation, yet the history of materials has only recently become the object of more intense analysis.

This conference will focus on the history of chemical and physical processes in materials research, the development of materials science and more recent historical accounts.

Relevant topics include:

- 1) Raw and processed materials and workable substances like glass, ceramics, metals, plastics
- 2) Extraction, synthesis and refining
- 3) Analysis and materials testing
- 4) Metallurgy, polymer science, nanotechnology, etc.
- 5) Analysis of historically employed materials and dyes
- 6) Research and development of materials within political and regional contexts

Opportunity will be provided for independent talks diverging from the guiding theme.

Talks may be delivered either in German or English but the conference will mainly be conducted in German.

**Abstracts** of up to 1,000 characters are solicited from speakers,  
to be submitted (if possible in electronic form) by **15 September 2008** to:

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