



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

# CONFERENCE

## Managing Knowledge in the Techno-sciences, 1850-2000

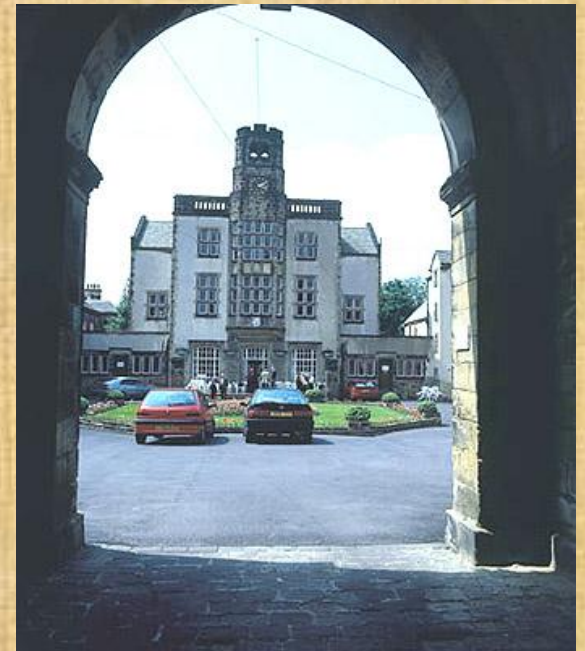
University of Leeds

5-8 July 2010



# Welcome

- **Four day conference programme**
- Devonshire Hall, Cumberland Road, 6-8<sup>th</sup>
- Campus: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> & plenary lecture 6<sup>th</sup> (and post lecture reception)
- Parallel IPBio Workshop 7<sup>th</sup> & summer school 8<sup>th</sup>
- Plenary discussion 8<sup>th</sup>
- Closing party 8<sup>th</sup> afternoon chez Gooday.
- Future events...?



# Campus locations



58 Today's session

78 Tomorrow's plenary

60 Post plenary reception





Arts & Humanities  
Research Council



University of  
**BRISTOL**



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

AHRC funded collaborative research project, 2007-10

# **Owning and Disowning Invention: Intellectual Property, Authority and Identity in British Science & Technology, 1880-1920**

Graeme Gooday, Christine MacLeod, Gregory Radick,  
Stathis Arapostathis, Berris Charnley, Jon Hopwood-Lewis

<http://owninganddisowninginvention.org/>

# “Owning & Disowning” project themes

- Aeronautics - MacLeod & Hopwood-Lewis
- Agricultural botany - Radick & Charnley
- Electrical technology - Gooday & Arapostathis
  
- Intellectual property: creative rights & rewards - patents etc.
- Authority: public control & trustworthiness
- Identity : engineering science, pure science, applied science?
  
- Tuesday: three sessions for chapters in MacLeod & Radick (eds.) Owning & Disowning Invention: Intellectual Property and Identity in the Technosciences in Britain, 1870-1930
  
- In preparation: Arapostathis & Gooday “Patently contestable”: historical trials of electricity, identity and inventorship

# Original Project questions

- Q1) How did British science and technology in the period 1880-1920 co-develop with innovations and controversies in intellectual property (IP)?
- Q2) To what extent did differentiating 'pure science' from 'applied science' *qua* invention help scientists and engineers to resolve problems in managing IP?
- Q3) What impact did these developments have on the trust relations and public authority of scientists and engineers?

# Issues and questions arising

- **Intellectual property** - anachronism? Question-begging? Ideologically loaded? Compare IP to 'intellectual commons'
- **19thC metaphors**: monopoly, property, protection, contract
  - diverse views of inventors, lawyers, legislators, public
- **IP narrow** ... rights to prevent others profiting from invention vs. **IP broad**... jurisdiction over a domain of techno-science
- Entrepreneurship, IP narrow vs professionalization, IP broad
- Innovative techno-sciences electro-, aero- & agri-1870-1930
  - Patenting in electrical tech & aeronautics, not in agri-botany
  - Problematic issues of scientific identity and prerogatives
  - Practitioner identity in telling (rival) histories of innovation
  - State relation to IP & research transformed by First World War



# “Managing Knowledge in the techno-sciences, 1850-2000”

**Managing Knowledge:** decisions about whether to make expertise free or proprietorial, open or closed – and how to represent it

**Period:** rise of techno-sciences, trans-European controversies over legitimacy of patenting, and coining of term “intellectual property”:

- **Conference themes:**

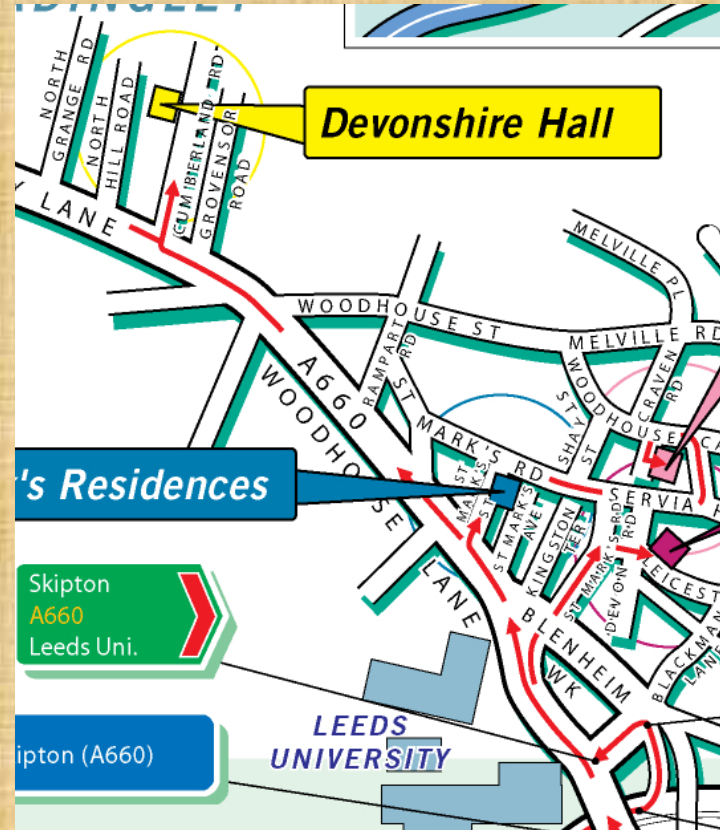
- - patent management and inventing cultures
- - openness vs secrecy
- - authority and the construction of inventorship
- - discourses of pure vs applied science and discovery vs invention
- - Intellectual property laws, and techno-scientific transformations
- - legal cultures and techno-scientific expertise
- - academic entrepreneurship and state funding
- - gender and inventor identity
- - industrial research and techno-scientific identities
- - techno-sciences and IP in global cultures



# Following up the conference

- Themed research networks (funded?)
- Focussed workshops on IP and Science
- Collaborative projects
- Collective book publication
- Virtual debate
- Wiki-pages
- Other possibilities...?

# Getting to Devonshire Hall



Taxi rank in front of Parkinson building, or take bus 28, 95, 96, 97.