An Environmental and Material History of Submarine Cables and Satellites

Jacob Ward
Lemelson Fellow, National Museum of American History
PhD Candidate, University College London/The Science Museum

Histories of the "Information Age" often obscure or screen the environmental and material aspects of the global telecommunications infrastructure. In this presentation looking at the Cold War history of transatlantic telecommunications, I show how the environments and materiality of communications technologies have played an important role in international telephony, and explore how histories of these technologies, whether in academia or museums, can draw greater attention to these hidden histories of telecommunications technologies.