***Impact Paradigm***

*This is an example of how a past IMOS class added new questions to the Impact Paradigm that demonstrated what they learned throughout this course. Since your final poster asks you to use your new Impact Paradigm questions to frame your reflections, here are some ideas on how to do this. But, we hope to hear your original thoughts!*

*Material*

* What is the material of importance?
* What are the general properties of this material?
* What is the source of the material?
* What is the general abundance of the material?
* What are the unique (enabling) properties of the material?
* What products are involved in processing this material, and what products are left as by-products from the processing (and what impacts do they have)? [Entanglement]
* What are the conditions of the production of the material? (and what are their social impacts?)
* Can the material malfunction or be inconsistent in its application?

*Historical*

* What is the first known use of the material?
* What people groups were involved at the time of first use? AND, what people or groups were involved in popularizing the material (if different from the first discovery)?
* At what time did the material become enabling?
* What events limited the impact of the material prior to or following its development/discovery?
* What discovery/development led to the material impacting society?
* What prior needs did society have that this material helped to address?
* Under what circumstances was the material discovered or developed? How did the inventor or discoverer of this material have the opportunity to develop it? (e.g., Earl Tupper’s company let him take home bits of things to ‘play with’)
* Who lost out in the discovery or production of a material, and why?
* What materials and technologies were replaced by this new material, and what are the different uses and costs/benefits of this change? [Creative Destruction]

*Technological*

* What technology did the material enable?
* What role did the material play in the technology?
* What property of the material enables the technology?
* What are the limits of the technology?
* How do these limits relate to the properties of the material?
* What current technologies enabled the development of the material?

*Societal*

* In which realms of society did the materials development have an impact?
* What were the financial implications of the development? How expensive is the material and the cost of its production? Has the cost of the material or processing changed since its discovery?
* What were the health implications of the development?
* What were the governmental implications of the development (war)? How did the government condition how the material was used? (e.g., ancient Rome used concrete to build ornamentation and public spaces)
* What social variables affected how the material was used or had an impact (e.g., gender, social class, etc.)? Are different social groups affected differently by the material?
* What were the social implication of the development?
* What are the future societal needs with respect to the material/technology?
* To what extent will materials processing play a role in future impact?
* What was the context of the world into which the material was created/discovered? What social values or priorities conditioned how the material was used?
* How did the cultural or symbolic meanings of the material affect how it was used? (e.g., the UK government collected all silver coins to re-issue nickel-based alloys. People traded in their silver coins with the Queen’s image on them, even though they materially ‘lost money’ in the process by transitioning to a cheaper metal).
* What scare tactics condition the ways in which materials are received by consumers? (e.g., ‘freshness’ of food and fears of contamination helped Tupperware to succeed, vs. BPAs in plastic baby bottles.)
* What markets were available for the dissemination of a material, and how did market forces affect its impact?
* How did the advertisement of a material (its framing and mediation) affect its use and social impact?
* What are the conditions of the production of the material? (and what are their social impacts?)

Overarching theme: as society changes, materials change.