This was an extremely fruitful year for the Program on Science, Technology and Society at Harvard. I am especially pleased to report that the Harvard Kennedy School has recently approved a special field in Science, Technology and Policy Studies (STePS) for students enrolled in its Ph.D. program in Public Policy (PPol). The special field draws on the strengths of the Harvard Kennedy School and the Harvard University faculty in Science, Technology and Society. It will provide doctoral-level research and training on the increasingly urgent issues of policy and governance raised by science and technology in society. STePS will help elevate the profile of STS studies at Harvard. We will appreciate all of your help in recruiting exceptional candidates.

Our existing Graduate Secondary Field in STS continues to enroll students from across the university. A number of them by now have completed the program and moved into tenure-track academic positions or promising careers in science policy, science communication, and consulting. Our collaborations with Harvard Law School (HLS), the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCfIA), the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), and the Harvard University Center for the Environment (HUCE) provided support for a wealth of events and activities that are described in this newsletter. The STS Circle, jointly funded by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and WCfIA, has become a Harvard institution and a highly desirable forum for young researchers wishing to showcase their work.

The past academic year featured two notable events in the Science and Democracy lecture series, a talk on coalitions for sustainable development by Rachel Kyte, CEO of Sustainable Energy for All, and one on scientific advice in European policymaking by Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation. The spring semester also included a wide-ranging international symposium on CRISPR, organized in collaboration with Arizona State University and funded by the Templeton Religion Trust and Harvard Medical School, and a workshop on nuclear imaginaries, funded by our National Science Foundation grant, “The Fukushima Disaster and the Cultural Politics of Nuclear Power in the United States and Japan.”

STS research at Harvard continues to flourish. In the second year of our National Science Foundation project, “Traveling Imaginaries of Innovation: The Practice Turn and Its Transnational Implementation,” we continued intensive research in Boston, Cambridge (UK), Munich and Bangalore. The project has expanded to include new team members and sites in Barcelona, Copenhagen, Paris, San Francisco, Tel Aviv, and Vienna among others. The Annual Science and Democracy Network Meeting, held in Cambridge, June 28-July 1, 2017, featured a lively Fifteenth Anniversary panel focused on the links between SDN research and emerging science and technology in the exemplary case of geoengineering.

After last year’s political upheavals, the Harvard STS Community organized a regional workshop in Cambridge in December 2016 to consider what our community has to contribute to the current political debate. Numerous exciting projects emerged from that meeting. The most immediate was the “First 100 Days” blog, spearheaded by STS Fellows Jacob Moses and Gili Vidan, featuring posts on “Narratives of Normalization and Disruption.” Inspired by STS Fellows Kasper Schiølin and Tito Carvalho, the blog reached beyond the United States to include posts from Brazil, Cambodia, China, Denmark, Indonesia, Iran, Paraguay, Switzerland, and Zambia. With guidance from the Fellows Group, STS Fellow Hilton Simmet compiled a “Post-Truth Reader,” a collection of articles and readings on the 2016 US election’s effects on public discourse. These efforts led in turn to blog posts and to articles in Social Studies of Science and Issues in Science and Technology.

It is with great pride in the growing power and visibility of this community of dedicated young scholars, that I report on the career milestones, publications, and research projects of current and former STS Fellows. You will find fuller information about their accomplishments below.

With best wishes for the new year and gratitude for your continued interest and support.

WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

January 31, 2018
Deadline for non-stipendiary fellowship applications

March 20, 2018
Science and Democracy Lecture with Michael Ignatieff

June 27-30, 2018
17th Science and Democracy Network Annual Meeting TUM and MCTS Munich, Germany

December 1, 2018
Deadline for applications to the Ph.D. in Public Policy with a special field in Science, Technology and Policy Studies at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Find out more online
http://sts.hks.harvard.edu
http://twitter.com/HarvardSTS
http://facebook.com/HarvardSTS
Rachel Kyte

Rachel Kyte, Chief Executive Officer of Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for SE4All, spoke of a social paradigm shift in sustainable development in her lecture, “Looking Up: How Coalitions of Bottom-up Organizations Are Driving Action for Sustainable Development.” She described how a variety of grassroots organizations are pushing leaders to adopt an “energy efficiency first” approach, putting access at the center of their energy plans. The work of these organizations, she argued, accelerates national energy plans around the world by moving away from centralized fossil fuel production, instead adopting distributed energy solutions. Kyte highlighted how this work falls outside the bounds of traditional governance, requiring new and extensive partnerships, and she advocated for the inclusion of those whose lives are being affected by energy development. Panelists William Clark (Harvard Kennedy School), Henry Lee (Harvard Kennedy School), and Michael Mehling (MIT) discussed the challenges, complexities, and potential of a bottom-up system of governance.

A video of the lecture is available here.

April 19, 2017

Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, gave the 21st Science and Democracy Lecture, “Good Science for Good Politics: Scientific Advice and Policy-making in the European Union.” In his talk, Moedas addressed the rising importance of scientific advice in policy making, the need to build partnerships of trust between scientists and politicians, and the vital place of science in our contentious political environment. He spoke about his fear of the “post-truth” environment, and the need to regain public trust in science. He also made recommendations to those who provide scientific advice: be open, provide options, and explain the process. Moedas was joined by a distinguished panel that included John Holdren (Harvard Kennedy School and former Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama on Science and Technology), Rush D. Holt (AAAS and former Member of the U.S. House of Representatives), and Venky Narayanamurti (Harvard Kennedy School and School of Engineering and Applied Sciences), all of whom shared their own advising experiences and recommendations for the future role of scientific advisors.

A video of the lecture is available here.

Workshops and Initiatives

Editorial Aspirations: Human Integrity at the Frontiers of Biology

Held over three days last spring, April 27-28, 2017, this conference brought together dozens of distinguished speakers to discuss the genome editing technique CRISPR-Cas9 and related technologies that may alter human nature and identity. The workshop took as a starting point the International Summit on Human Gene Editing held in December 2015 under the auspices of the US National Academy of Sciences. The Summit participants called for a moratorium on clinical germline gene editing until there is a demonstration of safety and a “broad societal consensus about the appropriateness of the proposed application.” The opening panel, moderated by J. Benjamin Hurlbut (Arizona State University and STS Fellow, 2009-2010) featured Anthony Appiah (New York University), George Church (Harvard Medical School), Glenn Cohen (Harvard Law School), Sheila Jasanoff (Harvard Kennedy School), and Feng Zhang (Broad Institute). The second day included panels on “Human Life and Law: Autonomy, Rights, Integrity, Dignity,” “Scientific Possibilities, Concerns, and Responsibilities,” “Mechanisms of Deliberation and Oversight,” and “What Role for Publics?” The final day, participants met in closed session to consider next steps aimed at engendering a more interdisciplinary and cosmopolitan debate on future applications of gene editing. Publications resulting from the workshop are in preparation.

The event was co-sponsored by the Center for Biology and Society, Arizona State University with support from the Templeton Religion Trust, the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School and the Center for Bioethics at Harvard Medical School, in partnership with the Foundation for Global Health, the Center for Bioethics at Harvard Medical School, the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; and The Future Society.

Videos of the workshop are available here.

New Nuclear Imaginaries

This workshop, held April 6-7, 2017, brought together competing, sometimes conflicting, ways of imagining the world’s nuclear futures. Jonathon Porritt, British environmentalist and author, delivered the opening public lecture on “Nuclear Chimeras: Britain’s Slow Death as a Nuclear Power,” with spirited commentary from Carol Cohn (University of Massachusetts, Boston), Allison Macfarlane (George Washington University), Jayita Sarkar (Boston University), and Daniel Schrag (Harvard University Center for the Environment). Organized in part by current STS Fellows Chris Lawrence and Sam Weiss Evans, workshop sessions tackled such topics as “Nuclear Past and Futures,” “Concealments,” “Memory and Forgetfulness,” “Waste and Burial,” and “Security and Sustainability.”

This event was supported by the National Science Foundation award SES-1257117 and was co-sponsored by the Harvard University Center for the Environment, Institute for Global Law and Policy at Harvard Law School, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

A full list of speakers and a video of the public lecture can be found here.
On February 16, 2017, Sheila Jasanoff moderated a JFK Jr. Forum discussion on the role bias has played - and will continue to play - in the construction of AI programs, particularly given the human subjectivity built into programming. Organized in part by STS Fellow Nicolas Mailhe and his student organization, The Future Society, the panel included Iris Bohnet (Harvard Kennedy School), Cynthia Dwork (Harvard, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences), and Alex “Sandy” Pentland (Massachusetts Institute of Technology). The event was hosted by the Institute of Politics, and supported by the Program on Science, Technology and Society, the “AI Initiative” of The Future Society at HKS and the Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy.

Video of the discussion can be found here.

Hermeneutics of the Future and Sociotechnical Imaginaries

The STS Program hosted Alfred Nordmann (Technical University of Darmstadt) in a conversation with Sheila Jasanoff about his concept “hermeneutics of the future” on February 7, 2017. Organized in part by STS Fellow Kasper Schiølin, the discussion centered around a comparison of Nordmann’s ideas on futures and the concept of “sociotechnical imaginaries” developed in the Harvard STS Program through the work of Jasanoff and others.

What Should Democracies Know? Post Election Reflections

Conceived in part by STS Fellows and Harvard History of Science Ph.D. candidates Jacob Moses and Gili Vidan, this session invited post-election reflections by senior Harvard faculty exactly one month after the 2016 Presidential Election on December 8, 2016. As the inaugural event of The Expertise and Public Trust Project, it featured Professors Archon Fung (Harvard Kennedy School), Ned Hall (Philosophy), Jane Mansbridge (Harvard Kennedy School), David Kennedy (Harvard Law School), and Sheila Jasanoff (Harvard Kennedy School).

Video of the discussion can be found here.

Narratives of Hope: Science, Theology & Environmental Policy

On Election Day, November 8, 2017, the STS Program hosted Professor Tom McLeish (Durham University) for a discussion of his 2014 book, Faith and Wisdom in Science (Oxford University Press). Focusing on submerged “narratives of despair” in public controversies on nanotechnology, GMOs and other environmental technologies, McLeish noted that religious resonances suggest a search for countering “narratives of hope” within theological sources such as the Book of Job.

On October 26, 2016, the Harvard STS Program hosted a book launch and reception for faculty affiliate Venky Narayanamurti and former STS Fellow Tolu Odumosu’s Cycles of Invention and Discovery: Rethinking the Endless Frontier. Published by Harvard University Press, the book offers an in-depth critique of the notions of “basic” and “applied” science. Using examples of breakthrough scientific discoveries, the authors advocate a more integrated perspective on science and engineering in both policy and practice. Introduced by Sheila Jasanoff, a discussion of the book by the authors was followed by commentary from panelists Evelyn Hu (Harvard, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences), John Krige (Georgia Institute of Technology), and Kenneth Oye (Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

Science and Democracy Network

The 16th Annual Meeting of the Science and Democracy Network was held at Harvard University on June 28-July 1, 2017. This year’s meeting included pre-circulated papers on a wide range of topics: for example, necrological citizenship and the politics of recognition; responsible mining in Minnesota; environmental jurisprudence in India; governing nuclear wastes in France; the Fourth Industrial Revolution and imaginaries of innovation and development in South Korea; the technocratic empiricism of the Obama administration; indigenous sovereignty, food activism, and agricultural biotechnology in Hawaii; the politics of zoning; biopolitics for sickle cell disease in Brazil; and transhumanism. On the first and last days of the meeting, two panels celebrated the Network's 15th anniversary. The first focused on the ongoing work of members of the Traveling Imaginaries of Innovation project, while the second examined the relationship between STS and emerging science and technology through the case of climate engineering.
Training and Curricular Activities

Special Field for Doctoral Students at HKS

The Harvard Kennedy School recently approved the creation of a special field in Science, Technology, and Policy Studies (STePS) for students enrolled in its Ph.D. program in Public Policy (PPOL). The special field draws on the strengths of Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard University faculty in Science and Technology and Society to provide doctoral-level research and training on issues of policy and governance raised by developments in science and technology. Interested students could apply to the PPOL program by December 1, 2018, indicating interest in the STePS Special Field. A list of prerequisites for the PPOL degree can be found on the HKS Degree Programs website.

Once admitted students declare a special field in Science, Technology, and Policy Studies, a field-specific curriculum will be designed in accordance with their area of interest. Approved elective courses offered at HKS and other Harvard graduate schools will count toward the degree. Interested students are invited to contact Shana Ashar for more information.

Secondary Field

The Secondary Field in Science, Technology and Society attracts Ph.D. students from varied backgrounds including anthropology, law, design, biology, English, and engineering and applied sciences, among others. In 2017, STS Secondary Field students Amy Gilson (Chemical Physics ‘16) and Liza Litvina (Neurobiology ‘17) presented their capstone projects to audiences of secondary field students and STS Fellows. Gilson’s presentation focused on her work on STS-informed science communication and Litvina’s on understandings of the lateral geniculate nucleus (LGN) of the thalamus seen through an STS lens.

The complete STS Circle program is available at http://sts.hks.harvard.edu/events/sts_circle/.

The Sixth Annual STS Undergraduate Essay Contest recognizes independent original research on science, technology, and society conducted by Harvard College students in any field. STS Fellows read and evaluated the submissions, awarding three prizes. Jacob Meisel (Social Studies ‘17) won first prize for his thesis chapter, “From Daily Weather to Decadal Climate: Boundary Intensification Between American Meteorologists and Climate Scientists.” Leib Celnik (History and Science & History of Art and Architecture ‘18) won an honorable mention for his paper “Alan Burroughs’ Invisible Light: Early X-Radiography at the Fogg Museum.” Sophia Lugo (History and Science ‘17) was awarded an honorable mention for her thesis chapter “Lobsterman: Kravitz, Kuffler, and the Role of the Lobster Model in Forming Twentieth Century American Neuroscience.”

To see the winners discuss the relationship between STS and their prize essays, click here.

FELLOWS

STS Circle

Anna Bridel
Ph.D. Candidate
International Development, London School of Economics and Political Science

Tito Carvalho
Ph.D. Candidate
Sociology and Science Studies, University of California, San Diego

Samuel Weiss Evans
Visiting Research Fellow, Program on Science, Technology and Society

Susanne Freidberg
Professor
Geography, Dartmouth College

Amanda Giang
Postdoctoral Associate
Institute for Data, Systems and Society, MIT

Alissa Haddaji
Ph.D. Candidate
Political Science, Ecole Normale Supérieure

Photo: STS Fellow Buhm Soon Park at the STS Circle. Credit: Jens Marquardt

Now in its twelfth year, the STS Circle continues to flourish as a major draw for the entire Cambridge STS community, with audiences regularly filling Pierce 100F to bursting. This year, the STS Circle greatly benefited from its connections to the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFA) and held the Spring 2017 series at the Center; drawing on the diverse talents and expertise of the local academic community, and capitalizing on its connections with engineering and the natural sciences as well as the social sciences and humanities, the STS Circle serves as the most attractive venue in Cambridge for both junior and senior scholars to present work on science, technology, and society.

The complete STS Circle program is available at http://sts.hks.harvard.edu/events/sts_circle/.

FELLOWS cont.

Ido Hartogsohn
Visiting Research Fellow
Program on Science, Technology & Society

Kamilla Karhunmaa
Ph.D. Candidate
Environmental policy, Science and Technology Studies, Helsinki University

Christopher Lawrence
Visiting Research Fellow
Program on Science, Technology and Society

Jens Marquardt
Post-Doctoral Researcher
University of Halle-Wittenberg

Nicolas Mialihé
Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Non-Resident)
Program on Science, Technology and Society

Zara Mirmalek
Senior Fellow
Program on Science, Technology and Society

Sixth Annual STS Undergraduate Essay Contest

The STS Undergraduate Essay Contest recognizes independent original research on science, technology, and society conducted by Harvard College students in any field. STS Fellows read and evaluated the submissions, awarding three prizes. Jacob Meisel (Social Studies ‘17) won first prize for his thesis chapter, “From Daily Weather to Decadal Climate: Boundary Intensification Between American Meteorologists and Climate Scientists.” Leib Celnik (History and Science & History of Art and Architecture ‘18) won an honorable mention for his paper “Alan Burroughs’ Invisible Light: Early X-Radiography at the Fogg Museum.” Sophia Lugo (History and Science ‘17) was awarded an honorable mention for her thesis chapter “Lobsterman: Kravitz, Kuffler, and the Role of the Lobster Model in Forming Twentieth Century American Neuroscience.”

To see the winners discuss the relationship between STS and their prize essays, click here.
Research News

First 100 Days: Narratives of Normalization and Disruption

In response to the recent U.S. presidential election, and other elections around the world signaling a rise of populism, the STS program convened a workshop on “Science, Technology, and Society in the Era of Trump” on December 4, 2016. One initiative that resulted from this conversation was the creation of the “First 100 Days” blog. Launched on January 30, 2017, the blog published 28 initial posts tracking the first days of the Trump presidency. STS scholars and students used examples from several scientific and technological domains to characterize narratives of normalization and disruption. Posts explored the meanings of so-called “post-truth politics” in the United States, as well as in Brazil, Cambodia, China, Denmark, Indonesia, Iran, Paraguay, Switzerland, and Zambia. The blog was initiated by STS fellows Gili Vidan and Jacob Moses, with further editorial contributions from fellows Kasper Hedegaard Schiølin, Tito Carvalho, Kellie Owens, and Hilton Simmet. The blog is online at http://first100days.stsprogram.org.

Research News

FELLOWS cont.

Buhm Soon Park
Professor
History of Science and Policy, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

James Parker
Senior Lecturer
Melbourne Law School

Celine Parotte
Post-Doctoral Researcher
Spiral Research Centre, Faculty of Law, Political Science and Criminology at the University of Liège

Kyoko Sato
Associate Director
Program in Science, Technology, and Society at Stanford University

Kasper Hedegaard Schiølin
Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow
Program on Science, Technology and Society

Gilli Vidan
PhD Candidate
History of Science, Harvard

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Margarita Boenig-Liptsin
Research Associate
Program on Science, Technology and Society

Michael Aaron Dennis
Professor
Strategy and Policy, Naval War College

Hilton Simmet
Ph.D. Candidate
Political Science, Yale University

Major strides have been made on the “Traveling Imaginaries of Innovation” project over this past year, including opening SDN’s 16th Annual Meeting with a panel on the project. That panel included Joakim Juhl (Aalborg University) on Copenhagen as a regional metropolis; Sebastian Pfotenhauer working with Alexander Wentland and Luise Ruge (Technische Universität München) on “conservative innovation” in Bavaria; Margo Boenig-Liptsin (Research Associate, Harvard STS) on Boston’s Seaport Innovation District; and Hilton Simmet (Yale University) and Principal Investigator Sheila Jasanoff on Bangalore’s “Silicon Plateau.” Much of the Bangalore research was conducted last spring, and was also presented to the STS department at Bar Ilan University. After the 45 meeting in Boston this fall, the full working group came together to develop comparative insights across the different cities. Contributors and their cases include Brice Laurent (San Francisco), Kyriaki Papageorgiou (Barcelona), Iris Eisenberger (Vienna), Juan Santa Cruz (Santiago), Amit Sheniak (Tel Aviv) and Aleksandar Rankovic (Paris). The group hopes to compile these articles over the next year for eventual publication as an edited volume.

“The Fukushima Disaster and the Cultural Politics of Nuclear Power in the United States and Japan”

Principal Investigator Sheila Jasanoff (Harvard) and Senior Researcher Kyoko Sato (Stanford) continued their NSF-funded investigation of nuclear governance in the United States and Japan. The project examines the sociotechnical imaginaries that anchored postwar nuclear governance in the two countries and the impact of the 2011 Fukushima disaster on these imaginaries. A milestone this year was the interdisciplinary workshop, “New Nuclear Imaginaries,” organized by Jasanoff, Lawrence, and Weiss Evans at Harvard in April, where project findings were shared with leading nuclear experts, including policy advisors, nuclear engineers and scientists, and STS scholars and historians. Based on analysis of fieldwork and media data, the project has identified how postwar nuclear imaginaries have been shaped by historical and geopolitical circumstances and have informed both US nuclear strategies during Cold War and the Japanese nuclear energy program, thereby contributing to each country’s ideas of nationhood. In particular, the representation of radiation and its biological effects had a significant impact not only on the way knowledge of radiation’s effects has been produced, but also on the bifurcation of atoms into “for war” and “for peace” in each country’s nuclear imaginary.
Erik Aarden (2007, 2012-2014) was awarded the Critical Policy Studies Early Career Researcher Article Prize for his article “Constitutions of Justice in Genetic Medicine: Distributing Diagnostics for Familial Hypercholesterolemia in three European Countries.” Erik also published a paper in Science and Public Policy titled “Projecting and Producing ‘Usefulness’ of Biomedical Research Infrastructures; or Why the Singapore Tissue Network Closed.”


Sonja M. Arnadæ (2014-2015) was appointed Associate Professor of International Political Economy in the Department of Politics and International Relations at Swansea University, Wales UK, beginning January 2018.

Elizabeth Barron (2011-2013) has developed a new line of research relating sustainability to place. Her first paper on this material, “Like a Second Home: Conceptualizing Experiences Within the Fox River Watershed Through a Framework of Emplacement,” was published in the journal Water in 2016. In the summer of 2017, Za was appointed to a two-year term as Associate Director for the new Sustainability Institute for Regional Transformations at University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

Jeremy Baskin (2016) is working on a project on the crisis of expertise and organizing a conference in February 2018 titled “A Crisis of Expertise? Legitimacy and the Challenge of Policymaking.”


Ruha Benjamin (2012-2013) was promoted to Associate Professor (with tenure) in African American studies and received the President's Award for Distinguished Teaching at Princeton. She published a chapter in Subprime Health: Debt and Race in US Medicine, and delivered keynote addresses at the Nobel Conference 53, American University Cairo, and the Dorothy Nelkin Memorial Lecture, among others.

Alessandro Blasimme (2014) has been a senior researcher at ETH Zurich (Switzerland), Health Ethics and Policy Lab - Department of Health Sciences and Technology since September 2017.

Maud Borie (2013) is currently working as a postdoctoral researcher on a project at King's College London ("Why We Disagree about Resilience"), investigating conflicting perspectives on "urban resilience" in three cities (Manilla, Cape Town, Nairobi), paying particular attention to the mobilization of scientific knowledge and tools. She recently started teaching a module on Environment, Science & Society at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Laurence Delina (2013, 2016) published Sustainable Energy Transitions in Developing Countries: The Challenges of Climate Change and Sustainable Development (Routledge 2017). He has also edited a special volume on "Energy and the Future" for Energy Research & Social Science in 2017. He currently works on intellectual property management and technology transfer in the University of Wisconsin system.

Mads Dahl Gjesfie (2011-2013) co-authored “The Political Economy of Technical Fix: The (Mis)alignment of Clean Fossil and Political Regimes” with Nils Markusson, Jennie C. Stephens, and David Tyfield. The article was published in Energy Research & Social Science in 2017. He currently works on intellectual property management and technology transfer in the University of Wisconsin system.

Mascha Gugganig (2014, 2015) is a principal investigator for the EU-project “Cultivating Engagement: A Citizen Participation Forum on Vertical Farming” as part of EIT Food (European Institute of Innovation and Technology). This sixteen-month comparative project is a partner project with the vertical farming industry and others. On this project, Mascha works with a colleague at the Munich Center for Technology in Society, Technical University Munich to organize and research citizen engagement events on verticalcontrolled farming in London and Munich.


Chris Jones (2009-2011) received an American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) fellowship for his next book and was awarded tenure at Arizona State University in May 2017.

Joakim Juhl (2013-2015) was appointed as the academic coordinator of the Techno-Anthropology program in the Department of Planning at Aalborg University.

Gregg Macey (2017-2018) published a book chapter, “Carbon Transitions in the Industrial Sector; in Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization in the United States,” (Michael Gerrard and John Dernbach, eds. 2017) and submitted an article, “The Incomplete Ecology of Hydraulic Fracturing Governance” to Arizona State Law Journal. A prior article, “Boundary Work in Environmental Law,” was selected as one of five notable environmental law articles published in the previous year and reprinted in the annual Land Use & Environmental Law Review. This semester, he is teaching a course on environmental justice law and policy at MIT as a visiting professor.

Myriam Tanferrri Machado (2015) attended the Clinton Global University Meeting in Boston to present and network around a project led with Brazilian colleagues. The project, called “Plataforma: Memories and Network around a project led with Brazilian colleagues.” The project, called “Plataforma: Memories and Network around a project led with Brazilian colleagues.”
Martin Mahony (2012) is now a Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Human Geography in the School of Environmental Sciences at the University of East Anglia (UK).

Luca Marelli (2013-2014) has been awarded a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship to work on a project at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven on the imaginary of biomedical innovation and its importance for the political consolidation of the EU. As a first inroad into the topic, he has published a book chapter on the making of the EU health bioeconomy (with Giuseppe Testa, in an edited volume on “Bioeconomies: Life, Technology and Capital in the XXI Century”).

Jens Marquardt (2017-2018) recently turned his dissertation into a book, How Power Shapes Energy Transitions in Southeast Asia (Routledge 2017) and published an article titled “Conceptualizing Power in Multi-Level Climate Governance.” Engaging more closely with STS, Jens now aims to shed light on how political uncertainty affects climate governance and policy implementation.

Nicolas Mialihé (2015-Present) is launching a global civic debate on the governance of Artificial Intelligence over a period of seven months. It is open to all at www.ai cividebate.com.

Georgia Miller (2014) was awarded her Ph.D., with a specialization in STS, by the University of New South Wales. Her thesis focused on “Science and Politics in Innovation Policy: The Making and Remaking of Nanotechnology.” Georgia is now working as a research assistant in the social dimensions program of the Australian Research Council’s Centre of Excellence in Convergent Bio-Nano Science & Technology.

Zara Mirmalek (2014-Present) published “Inspiring Innovation: On Low-Tech in High-Tech Development” in Intersections 24 (4): 50–55. The article focuses on her research among scientists developing work systems for future human and robotic exploration on Mars. In Fall 2017, she began working on a new NASA PSTAR project called SUBSEA (Systematic Underwater Biogeochemical Science and Exploration Analog), led by Principal Investigator Darlene Lim at the NASA Ames Research Center. Her new position as a Research Scientist with the Bay Area Environmental Research Institute allows her to continue to be a local member of the Harvard STS Program.

Maya Mitre (2009-2010) started an appointment in September 2017 as an external lecturer at the Department of Digitalisation, at Copenhagen Business School.

Jasper Montana (2015) completed his Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge. His thesis examined the construction of expert authority in the establishment of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. He is now working as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Sheffield, UK.


Kellie Owens (2015-2017) completed her Ph.D. in Sociology at Northwestern University and is now a Post-doctoral Fellow in the Medical Ethics and Health Policy Department at the University of Pennsylvania. She recently published an article based on her dissertation research in Science, Technology, and Human Values, titled, “Too Much of a Good Thing: American Childbirth, Intentional Ignorance, and the Boundaries of Responsible Knowledge.” The article received the Mullins Prize from 45, the Hacker-Mullins prize from the Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section of the American Sociological Association, and the David Hakkan Prize from the Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology, and Computing at the American Anthropological Association.

James Parker (2017) has two book chapters currently in press. One is on the gavel, the other on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda’s sonic imagination. Between July and October 2018, he will be co-curating “Eavesdropping,” an exhibition, public program and series of academic events exploring questions of law, sound, listening and power, jointly hosted by Melbourne Law School’s Centre for Architecture and the Ian Potter Museum of Art.

Melike Şahinol (2009) has co-initiated the founding of the STS Turkey network. The network’s launch meeting was held on October 3-4, 2017 at the Orient-Institute Istanbul, Turkey. The meeting’s goal was to introduce scholars who are interested in STS in Turkey to each other: High attendance at the event, rapidly growing membership, and more interested groups show the importance of such a network in Turkey. Melike and the other co-founders of STS Turkey, Dr. Arsev Aydinoglu and Assistant Professor Harun Kaygan (both Middle East Technical University, Ankara), hope that this meeting marks the beginning of a constructive dialogue among those interested in science, technology and Turkish society.

Kyoko Sato (2013-Present) continues to work on the politics of nuclear governance in Japan and the United States. In addition to her work in the project funded by the National Science Foundation, Sato currently co-directs “Nuclear Governance after Hiroshima: Atoms for War and Peace in Japan, France, and the United States 1945-1970,” a 3-year collaboration among Stanford University, Université Paris Descartes and Université Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne, funded by the Partner University Fund of FACE (French-American Cultural Exchange) Foundation. Sato worked with French colleagues Soraya Bouida and Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent to organize an interdisciplinary, international conference, “Making the World Nuclear After Hiroshima,” at Stanford in May 2017. She also curated an exhibit at Stanford’s East Asia Library, titled “In/Visible: Nuclear Representation in Japan from Hiroshima to Fukushima,” from June to August 2017.

Daniela Schuh (2013-2014) obtained a scholarship from the Austrian Ministry for Science, Research and Economics to join Belgium’s Life Sciences and Society Lab, headed by Ine Van Hoyweghen at the KU Leuven.

Melanie Smallman (2015) has been appointed as Lecturer in Science and Technology Studies at University College London’s Department of Science and Technology Studies. She has also recently published a paper “Science to the Rescue” in Public Understanding of Science, based on her work comparing public, policy and scientific socio-technical imaginaries in the UK.

Kaushik Sunder Rajan (2002-03) recently published his Pharmacology/Value, Politics and Knowledge in Global Biomedicine (Duke University Press, Indian edition by Orient Blackswan). The book follows the global harmonization of clinical trials and intellectual property regimes in India in the mid-2000s, arguing that these moves must be understood in terms of the expansion of multinational corporate hegemony.

Celina Ramjoué (2004-2005) is Deputy Head of Unit of the Data Policy and Innovation Unit at the European Commission’s DG CONNECT where she deals with policies on government, research and private sector data.

Aleksandar Rankovic (2015) holds a permanent researcher position at the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI - Sciences Po) and teaches at the Paris School of International Affairs. His work focuses on the interactions between environmental sciences and policies, mainly on climate and biodiversity issues, in different national contexts and in international relations.

Samuel Taylor-Alexander (2008, 2009) has joined Monash University, Melbourne, as part of the Health and Biofuels Focus Programme. Monash has a distinguished visitors scheme, so please let him know if you would like to spend some time in Melbourne!

Frédéric Vandermeere (2009-2010) was promoted to Associate Professor in Sociology at the University of Antwerp, Belgium. Together with Gert Verschraegen he recently edited the book Imagined Futures in Science, Technology and Society (Routledge). The volume illustrates through different case studies how scientific and technological imaginaries matter in the formation of human, ecological and societal futures.