



Program on Science, Technology & Society
Harvard Kennedy School
Yearbook 2008-2010

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Over the past few years, an exciting new interfaculty program has taken shape at Harvard: the Program on Science, Technology and Society (STS). Based in the Harvard Kennedy School, the STS Program reaches out across the university through its research, training, and public events. This report presents Program highlights from 2008-2010.

Science and technology entangle with every aspect of human life, from intimate issues of medical and informational privacy to global concerns about climate change and economic sustainability. The STS Program promotes lively, open discussion on these issues among scientists, social scientists, historians, policy-makers, activists, legal thinkers, the press, and the public. Topics we have addressed include innovation, technology transfer, global environment and public health, stem cell research, ownership of biological materials, cross-national regulatory harmonization, and science in the blogosphere.

People are the core of the Program. This report showcases past and current STS Fellows, a diverse and talented group of scholars from research institutions around the world who have helped shape the Program's intellectual agenda since its founding. It also recognizes the Faculty Affiliates, whose work the Program seeks to promote, and the distinguished Science and Democracy lecturers who have raised the profile of STS at Harvard.

We are grateful to sources inside and outside the university for their generous support: the Harvard Kennedy School, the Harvard University Center for the Environment, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the Graduate School of Design, the Bassetti Foundation, and especially John McQuillan for his rare blend of vision and pragmatism.

With this report, we encourage you to participate in the STS Program and help shape its further development.



Sheila Jasanoff
Sheila Jasanoff

About the STS Program

The Program on Science, Technology and Society (STS) at Harvard University is dedicated to enhancing the quality of research, education, and public debate on the role of science and technology in contemporary societies. Through integrated, cross-disciplinary initiatives in research, teaching, training, and public outreach the Program seeks to develop foundational, policy-relevant insights into the nature of science and technology, and the ways in which they both influence and are influenced by society, politics, and culture. Among the fields that significantly contribute to the STS Program's core mission are science and technology studies, anthropology, comparative politics, history, history of science, government, law, sociology, engineering, and the life sciences.

Research in the STS Program ranges broadly across the legal, political, social and cultural studies of science and technology. Program faculty and fellows have developed a particular focus on topics involving the life sciences, especially genetics, biotechnology, and the environment. The Program also has special strengths in comparative studies of science and technology policy and in empirically grounded theory development.

The Program addresses several broad and overlapping constituencies at Harvard and in the Boston area, including students, faculty, fellows, and professionals in technical fields.

To serve these constituencies, the STS Program sponsors the weekly STS Circle, a distinguished public lecture series, topical panels, and occasional events such as conferences and workshops, often in collaboration with other Harvard academic units and research centers. In 2010, the Program began administering the Graduate Secondary Field in Science, Technology and Society intended for doctoral students at Harvard.



Visit the STS Program on the web:
<http://hks.harvard.edu/sts/>

WHAT IS STS?

What is STS?

Science and Technology Studies (STS) is a relatively new academic field. Its roots lie in the interwar period and continue into the start of the Cold War, when historians and sociologists of science, and scientists themselves, became interested in the relationship between scientific knowledge, technological systems, and society. Thomas Kuhn's influential 1962 study, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, helped crystallize a new approach to historical and social studies of science, viewing scientific facts as products of scientists' socially conditioned theories and work practices. Among the many ramifications of work such as Kuhn's was a systematic effort by social scientists and humanists to probe how scientific discovery and its technological applications link up with developments in law, politics, public policy, ethics, and culture.

STS emerged from the convergence of two broad streams of scholarship. The first consists of research on the nature and practices of science and technology. S&T are treated as social institutions possessing distinctive structures, norms, methods, and discourses that vary across cultures and change over time. Many questions of great relevance to contemporary societies can be illuminated by such research: for example, what do we mean by the "scientific method" in interdisciplinary settings; what makes scientific facts credible to non-scientists; how do new disciplines emerge, and which ones deserve public support; and how does science relate to religion?

The second stream concerns the social impacts of science and technology, including the risks that S&T may pose to peace, security, community, democracy, environmental sustainability, and human values. Driving research of this kind are questions like the following: how should states seek public engagement in science and technology policy; who should participate, and how, in expert decisionmaking; should life forms be patented; how should societies measure risks and set safety standards; and how should courts and other lay bodies make effective use of scientific and technical expertise?

STS is an increasingly important field of teaching as well as research. The field's popularity reflects a dawning recognition that specialization in today's research universities does not adequately prepare future citizens to respond knowledgeably and effectively to the most important challenges of the



contemporary world. Increasingly, the dilemmas that confront people, whether in government, industry, politics or daily life, cut across conventional lines of academic training and thought. STS seeks to overcome the divisions, particularly between the two cultures of the humanities and natural sciences.

Undergraduate STS courses are especially suitable for engineering and pre-professional students, including premeds. They help to illuminate issues of professional responsibility and ethics, especially when decisions are made under conditions of uncertainty. Graduate STS courses offer ways of integrating knowledge in areas that cannot be grasped through any single discipline; examples include security studies, environmental studies, globalization, development, and biology and society. STS courses in these areas enable students to form more robust understandings of the nature of controversy, the causes of scientific and technological change, the relationship of culture and reason, and the limits of rational analytic methods in characterizing complex problems. The STS Program created and maintains the first comprehensive list of STS courses offered throughout Harvard.

In sum, STS explores in rich and compelling ways what difference it makes to human societies that we, collectively, are producers and users of science and technology. STS research, teaching, and outreach offer citizens of modern, high-tech societies the resources with which to evaluate—analytically, esthetically, and ethically—the benefits and risks, the perils and the promises, of notable advances in science and technology.

Fellows

Each year, the STS Program hosts a small number of highly qualified young scholars who come to Harvard for advanced training in science and technology studies in an interdisciplinary, policy-relevant research environment. Fellows are selected on the basis of their projects, institutional recommendations, and academic qualifications. STS Fellows are known for the high caliber of their research and the Program has attracted some of the finest young STS scholars from around the world.

Erik Aarden holds a Ph.D. in Health, Ethics and Society from Maastricht University. As a pre-doctoral STS fellow, Erik worked on a dissertation exploring the varied rationalities behind the organization and provision of genetic health services in health care delivery schemes in the Netherlands, Germany, and Britain.

Following his STS fellowship, Erik returned to Maastricht to complete his dissertation, which he defended in January 2010.



Peter Alagona is Assistant Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He received his Ph.D. in History, with emphases in environmental history and the history of science, from the University of California, Los Angeles. His research focuses on the cultural and political histories of ecology and the conservation sciences. Following his fellowship, he moved to a postdoctoral position at Stanford and then to UC Santa Barbara.

Jay Aronson is Assistant Professor in History at Carnegie Mellon University. He received a Ph.D. in the History of Science from the University of Minnesota. His research focuses on issues at the intersection of the life sciences, biotechnology, politics, and law. As an STS fellow, he was supported by the “Reframing Rights” training grant from the National Science Foundation to complete his dissertation on the history of DNA profiling.



Ellen Bales is a post-doctoral fellow at the STS Program. She received her Ph.D. from the History Department at the University of California, Berkeley where her major field was history of science. She is currently working on a project on the Supreme Court’s 1993 *Daubert* decision and its subsequent impact on science and law.



Stève Bernardin is a Ph.D. candidate in Political Science at the University of Paris (Sorbonne). As an STS fellow on a Fulbright grant, he investigated the 20th century practices of bureaucrats and scientists in the US federal administration for traffic safety. Following his fellowship, Stève returned to Paris to complete his dissertation and to work for the French Department of Transportation.

Rachel Biderman is vice-coordinator and researcher at the Center for Sustainability Studies at the Business Administration School of Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) in São Paulo, Brazil. She is a Ph.D. student at the Public Administration Department of the Business Administration School of FGV, and holds a Law Degree from Universidade de São Paulo. As an STS fellow, Rachel focused on technology transfer and the Global Environmental Facility.



Anders Blok is an Adjunct at the Sociology Institute at the University of Copenhagen, where he also earned his Ph.D. As an STS fellow, Anders focused on the knowledge politics of the long-standing conflicts surrounding Japanese whaling. Following his fellowship, Anders returned to Copenhagen to complete his dissertation in spring 2010.

Christophe Bonneuil is a Senior researcher at the Alexander Koyré Research Center for the History of Science and Technology (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) and associate researcher at the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (Science in Society Unit, IFRIS). His work centers on how nature (biodiversity, heredity, crops) has been co-constituted into objects of knowledge and objects of government since Darwin.

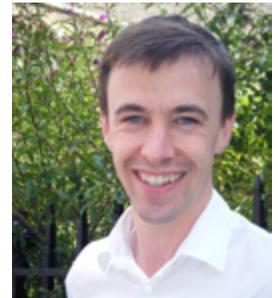


Regula Valérie Burri is a sociologist and professor at HafenCity Universität Hamburg. As an STS fellow, she focused on emerging technologies and public policy, with special emphasis on public engagement in nanotechnology in the US, Germany, and Switzerland. Following her fellowship, she returned to a position as associated research scholar at the Collegium Helveticum, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) and University of Zurich.



Margaret Curnutte is a Ph.D. candidate at the European School for Molecular Medicine (SEMM) at the University of Milan. As an STS fellow she examined issues of responsible innovation and genetic consumerism. She was funded by the Giannino Bassetti Foundation and by the European School for Molecular Medicine. Upon completion of her fellowship, she returned to the University of Milan to complete her degree.

Robert Doubleday is a Research Associate at the Department of Geography at the University of Cambridge. Doubleday was the principal investigator on a three-year Wellcome Trust funded project that studies the public dimensions of nano-biotechnology. Doubleday spent a year at the STS Program as a Fulbright scholar as part of the Reframing Rights project.



Rachel Douglas-Jones is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Durham, UK, where she carried out her doctoral research as part of the International Science and Bioethics Collaborations Project. While visiting the STS Program, she began writing up her dissertation, which uses multisited fieldwork to examine the growth of research governance mechanisms.



Jim Dratwa received his Ph.D. in the socioeconomics of innovation from the Ecole des Mines de Paris, and in philosophy of science from the Université Libre de Bruxelles in 2003. He is professor of political science at the Facultés universitaires Saint-Louis, Brussels and a civil servant with the European Commission, at the department for research policy. He received a Fulbright scholarship in 2001 and was pre- and post-doctoral fellow in the STS Program.

Iris Eisenberger is Universitätsassistentin in the Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law in the Faculty of Law at the University of Vienna. She holds a Ph.D. in Law from the University of Graz, Austria. As an STS fellow supported by a Schroedinger Fellowship from the Austrian Science Foundation, she worked on the legal governance of emerging technologies, particularly in the field of nanotechnology.



Adrian Ely is a Research Fellow at SPRU—Science and Technology Policy Research at the University of Sussex. Adrian holds a D.Phil. in Science and Technology Policy Studies from Sussex. As an STS fellow, Adrian conducted fieldwork for his doctoral dissertation on policies surrounding genetically modified maize.

Samuel Evans holds a joint appointment with the STS Program and the School of Engineering & Applied Sciences. He is preparing publications based on his doctoral research at Oxford University, which looked at how governments draw the line between what is and is not a militarily significant technology. He also helped to design and teach an undergraduate course with Venky Narayanamurti on “Technology & Society.”



Emanuela Gambini is a researcher in Philosophy of Law at the Catholic University of Piacenza (Italy), Law Faculty. As an STS fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, she conducted research on her book project and also translated Sheila Jasanoff's book, *Designs on Nature*, into Italian.



Alex Görsdorf holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the Institute of Science and Technology Studies (IWT) at the University of Bielefeld. As an STS fellow, he was supported by a fellowship in the project "TRANSDISS – disciplinary research in transdisciplinarity," funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. At the STS Program, he analyzed the results of several Danish consensus conferences for his dissertation..

Pru Hobson-West is a Lecturer in Welfare, Ethics and Society at the Institute for Science and Society at the University of Nottingham. As an STS Fellow, she was supported by a Wellcome Trust postdoctoral fellowship in biomedical ethics. Her research examined how those engaged in and those campaigning against animal research appeal to "ethical" arguments and draw boundaries between ethical and scientific claims.



Johanna Hoeffken is a Ph.D. student at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Maastricht University in the Netherlands. Her work looks at issues of civic engagement with small scaled hydro electric schemes in India.



James Benjamin Hurlbut is Assistant Professor in the School of Life Sciences and affiliate faculty in the Consortium for Science Policy and Outcomes at Arizona State University. He received a Ph.D. in the History of Science from Harvard University and was subsequently a postdoctoral fellow in the STS program at Harvard. As an STS fellow, Ben focused on the human embryo research debates in the US, in particular on public bioethics and imaginaries of public reason.

Christopher Jones is a postdoctoral fellow at the Harvard Center for the Environment. He received a Ph.D. in the History and Sociology of Science from the University of Pennsylvania. As an STS fellow, Chris is preparing a book manuscript and exploring the policy implications of his historical research on the development of America's first fossil-fuel intensive region, the mid-Atlantic.

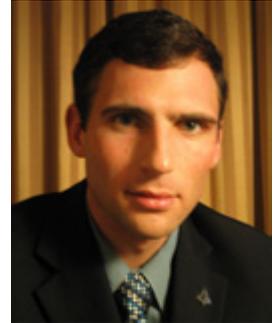


Jennifer Keelan is Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Toronto. In 2004, she received an SSHRC postdoctoral fellowship held at the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, University College of London, and in the STS Program. As an STS fellow, she prepared a monograph that compares the resistance movements and legal challenges to compulsory immunization in the U.S., Canada and the UK.

Sang-Hyun Kim is a Research Professor at the Research Institute of Comparative History and Culture, Hanyang University, Korea. Originally trained as a solid-state chemist (D.Phil. Oxford), he later moved to the field of STS and received his Ph.D. in history and sociology of science from the University of Edinburgh, UK. As a postdoctoral fellow in the STS Program, Sang-Hyun was instrumental in developing and working on the NSF grant on Sociotechnical Imaginaries.



Christopher Kirchhoff has worked as the editor of the Investigation Report that considered the Columbia Space Shuttle accident, and subsequently served as lead writer of the official history by the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. He received Ph.D. in politics from the University of Cambridge. He is currently Special Advisor to the Deputy Secretary of Defense. As an STS fellow, he developed perspectives on disaster studies, which provided a of the key analytic framework for his dissertation.



Monika Kurath is an Academic Researcher in the Program on Science Studies at the University of Basel. She received a Ph.D. from the University of St. Gallen. As an STS fellow, she worked on a project comparing regulatory cultures of nanotechnologies, which was funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation.

Myanna Lahsen is Associate Researcher in the Earth System Science Center in the Brazilian National Institute of Space Research and also affiliated with the Center for Science and Technology Policy Research at University of Colorado. She received a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Rice University. As a fellow in the Global Environmental Assessment project at the Kennedy School, she examined environmental politics in the US and Brazil.



Brice Laurent is employed by the French state ministry of industry while working on his Ph.D. At the École des Mines in Paris. His doctoral research, conducted in part while an STS fellow, focused on nanotechnology and public policy, with a special interest in forms of public engagement and their relationship to emerging conceptions of technological citizenship.



Nicole Lozzi holds a Ph.D. from the Doctoral School of Research for the Study of Agroindustrial Systems at the University of Piacenza. As an STS fellow she compared the legal and policy choices that form the basis for current agrofood safety systems through several case studies of “food emergencies” of public concern in Europe, including BSE, dioxin contamination, and bird flu.

Marybeth Long Martello holds an M.S. in civil and environmental engineering and an interdepartmental Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As a postdoctoral fellow, Marybeth was affiliated with the Global Environmental Assessment project and a subsequent NSF-funded project on Sustainable Knowledge for the Global Environment in the STS Program. She was co-editor with Sheila Jasanoff of *Earthly Politics: Local and Global in Environmental Governance* (MIT Press, 2004).



Deborah Mascalonzi works at the Institute of Genetic Medicine in Bolzano, Italy, as scientist expert in Bioethics and the relationship between Science and Society. She holds a Ph.D. in Bioethics from the University of Bologna with focus on participation in research. As an STS fellow, she worked on her dissertation, which examined informed consent in genomics and public participation.

Clark A. Miller is Associate Professor in the School of Politics and Global Studies and Associate Director of the Consortium for Science, Policy and Outcomes at Arizona State University. He holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Cornell. As a postdoctoral fellow at the STS Program, he helped raise research funds from NSF, participated in training more junior scholars, and contributed intellectually and administratively to the birth of the STS Program.



Maya Mitre is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Political Science at the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. As an STS fellow, she examined the Brazilian Supreme Court's role in shaping embryonic stem cell research policy. She was funded by Capes, an agency of the Brazilian Ministry of Education.



Cormac O'Raiheartaigh is solid-state physicist, and a tenured lecturer in physics at Waterford Institute of Technology in Waterford, Ireland. He is a former Chair of the RAW public science debates at Science Gallery Dublin and is currently a science ambassador for Discover Science and Engineering, Ireland's national science promotion programme. At the STS Program, he is studying issues of science policy.

Tolu Odumosu is a postdoctoral fellow in the Belfer Center at the Harvard Kennedy School. He holds a Ph.D. in Science and Technology Studies from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. His research examines the development of the Telecommunications Industry in Nigeria. As an STS fellow, he focused on the co-construction of conceptions of democracy and technological governance in Nigeria.



James Padilla-DeBorst is an Adjunct Professor of International Development at Eastern University Philadelphia, PA, while he teaches in their Capetown, South Africa campus. He has spent nearly 20 years as a development practitioner in Africa and Latin America, mainly in El Salvador where he made his home for 14 years. His research as an STS fellow focused on transnational development institutions.



Katja Patzwaldt received a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Bielefeld. As a fellow in the STS program, she worked on political decision-making and “games of legitimacy.” Since March 2008, Katja has assisted Dean Ursula M. Staudinger at Jacobs University in Bremen.

Thomas Pfister is a postdoctoral fellow at the STS Program, supported by the German Academic Exchange Service. His research focuses on the role of European integration research in the social sciences, humanities and law in the broader context of European integration.



Corinna Porteri works as a researcher in Bioethics and as the person responsible for the Bioethics Unit at the IRCCS Saint John of God Fatebenefratelli in Brescia, Italy. At the STS Program, she worked on issues related to bioethics and law.

Roopali Phadke is Assistant Professor of environmental studies at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. She joined the STS Program as a two-year NSF postdoctoral fellow. While a fellow, her research focused on the private and public development of water resources in South Asia.



Kaushik Sunder Rajan is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago, and the author of the book *Biocapital: The Constitution of Post-Genomic Life* (2006). As a postdoctoral fellow in the STS Program, he was part of the NSF funded “Reframing Rights” project.



Celina Ramjoué is a research policy officer at the European Commission’s Research Directorate-General. She holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Zurich. As an STS fellow, she was funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation to pursue her research on the societal and political dimensions of the life sciences in two areas: genetically modified food and assisted reproductive technology.

Jenny Reardon is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. From Fall 1999 through Spring 2002, she was a Fellow in Science, Technology and Public Policy at the Kennedy School. Her research on genomics, race and populations ultimately led to publication of her book *Race to the Finish: Identity and Governance in an Age of Genomics* (2005). With Sheila Jasanoff, she also worked on a two-year interfaculty program on genomics and society that helped lay the foundations for the STS Program at Harvard.





Krishanu Saha is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research at MIT, supported by the Society in Science: Branco-Weiss Fellowship. Kris is a practicing scientist in the laboratory of Rudolf Jaenisch working on embryonic stem cells and on an emerging class of human engineered materials. At the STS Program, he examined the moral, economic, and political status of model diseases constructed through stem cell biology and engineering.

Melike Şahinol joined the STS Program as a Ph.D. candidate in sociology and fellow of the Postgraduate Program for 'Bioethics' with the Interdepartmental Centre for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities at the University of Tuebingen. Her research focuses on the dynamics of the neuro-scientific and neuro-technological innovation process, in particular the development of brain-computer-interfaces and implants.



Frédérique Santerre holds a Ph.D. in International Relations from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva. As a fellow in the STS Program, she examined the emergence and evolution of the international regulation of genetic resources. Following her fellowship, she was Director of Health Care Systems at the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations.

Oliver Schilling is a doctoral candidate at Bielefeld University. In his research, conducted in part as a fellow in the STS Program, Oliver investigates the role of international consultants in the process of legal development in Cambodia.



Janina Schirmer is a Ph.D. candidate in the graduate program “On the Way to Knowledge Society” at the Institute for Science and Technology Studies at Bielefeld University. Her doctoral research, conducted in part as a fellow in the STS Program, focuses on European Innovation policy with an emphasis on frames in European nanotechnology policy.



Malte Schophaus works for the Scientific Commission of Lower Saxony in Hanover, Germany. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Bielefeld. Malte joined the Harvard STS Program with support from the German Academic Exchange Service and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation). As a fellow in the STS Program, he explored the role of scientific expertise for social movements and non-governmental organizations in the knowledge society.

Stefan Sperling received a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Princeton University. His dissertation, written during his period as a fellow in the STS Program from 2003-2007, looked at German bioethics as an ethnographic object. At Harvard, he was supported by a Charlotte W. Newcombe dissertation fellowship and the NSF projects on “Reframing Rights” and “Constituting Nature and Society in the Global Environment.”



Mariachiara Tallacchini is Professor of Philosophy of Law and of Science, Technology and Law in the Law Faculty at the Catholic University of Piacenza. Mariachiara’s interests focus on technoscience and the law from an STS and legal philosophy perspective. She participated in the STS Program as a postdoctoral fellow on the NSF-funded “Reframing Rights” project.



Samuel Taylor-Alexander is a Ph.D. candidate in the Anthropology Program at the Australian National University. As a fellow in the STS Program, he continued his research on the politics and governance of plastic surgery practice in Mexico.

Giuseppe Testa holds an M.D., a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and an M.A. in Bioethics and Law. He was a Fellow in the STS Program under the Branco Weiss Society-in-Science program. He heads the Laboratory of Stem Cell Epigenetics at the European Institute of Oncology in Milan, where he co-founded the interdisciplinary Ph.D. program on Life Sciences, Bioethics and Society. His STS scholarship focuses on the place of the life sciences in the evolution of modern democracies.



Frederic Vandermoere is a postdoctoral fellow at Department of Sociology at Ghent University and associate researcher at the French National Institute of Agricultural Research in Paris. At the STS Program, his research focused on the public perception of nanotechnology in France and Germany.

David E. Winickoff is Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management at the University of California, Berkeley. He holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School. David's research centers on the interaction of science, norms, and political structure in the governance of human health and the environment, with a particular focus on biotechnology and the law. He participated in the STS Program as a postdoctoral fellow in the NSF-funded "Reframing Rights" project.



Senior Visitors



Rob Hagendijk is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Amsterdam and former Dean of the International School of Humanities and Social Sciences. His research interests include social theory, scientific and technological controversies, public understanding of science, science in less developed countries, social sciences and public policy.

Pierre-Benoît Joly, economist and sociologist, is senior research fellow at the National Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA). Since January 2003, he has been the Director of the Research Unit on Social Transformations related to Life Sciences and Life Forms. He is a member of the board of IFRIS (French Institute for Research, Innovation and Society). His research focuses on the governance of collective risks, sociotechnical controversies, the use of scientific advice in public decision making and public participation in scientific activities.



Visitors

Claire Donovan

Research Fellow, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University.

Paul Oldham

Research Associate, Centre for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics, Lancaster University.

Annemiek Nelis

Director, Centre for Society and Genomics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

Martyn Pickersgill

Postgraduate Student, Institute for Science & Society, University of Nottingham.

Gethin Rees

ESRC Predoctoral Fellow, Science Studies Unit, Edinburgh, UK.

STS Circle

Established in the fall of 2006, the STS Circle offers graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, junior and senior faculty an opportunity to present their work to S&T analysts from varied disciplines. Scholarship on science and technology gains richness and sophistication by breaking down the barriers between traditional disciplines. In this spirit, the Circle brings together historical and contemporary research; disciplinary and professional perspectives; STS research and the experiences of scientists and engineers; and insights from the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. It is the only forum at Harvard that actively promotes interaction between junior and senior researchers and showcases the work of Boston-area scholars working on science, technology, and society.

STS Circle Spring 2008

- Feb. 4 **Arthur A. Daemrlich** (Harvard Business School)
Innovation in Degradation: Ecoflex at BASF, on the Market, and in the Compost
- Feb. 13 **Mark Hauser** (Department of Psychology, Harvard University)
Evolving a Moral Grammar: Domain-specificity, Origins, Universality and Moral Organs
- Feb. 25 **Martyn Pickersgill** (Institute for Science and Society, University of Nottingham)
The Neuroscience of Psychopathy: A Mundane Revolution?
- Mar. 3 **Sara Shostak** (Department of Sociology, Brandeis University)
Multiplicity in Practice: Towards a Genealogy of 'Gene-Environment Interaction'
- Mar. 10 **Stuart A. Newman** (Department of Cell Biology & Anatomy, New York Medical College)
Evolution: the Public's Problem, and the Scientists'
- Mar. 17 **R. P. Hagendijk** (International School for Humanities and Social Sciences, Universiteit van Amsterdam)
Modes of Public Engagement in European S&T Governance
- Mar. 31 **Felice Frankel** (Envisioning Science Program, Initiative in Innovative Computing, Harvard University)
The Visual Expression of Science: More than Pretty Pictures
- Apr. 7 **Sarah Jansen** (Department of the History of Science, Harvard University)
Managing Whales, Wolves, and Eastern Europeans
- Apr. 21 **Ellen Bales** (History of Science and Technology, UC Berkeley)
Working Levels, Working Knowledge: Indoor Radon and the Environmental Protection Agency



Flier image: Nanoscale circuit with the logo of Sandia National Laboratories on a vertical mirror on a rotary indexing stage. Courtesy of Sandia National Laboratories, SUMMIT Technologies.



Flier image: Exploratory tunnel dug by a 25-foot-diameter tunnel boring machine at the proposed Yucca Mountain, Nevada, repository for spent nuclear fuel. Courtesy U.S. Department of Energy.

STS Circle Fall 2008

- Sep. 22 **Myles Jackson** (Polytechnic University)
The History of CCR5: Intellectual Property and Human Genetics
- Sep. 29 **Anders Blok** (Copenhagen University)
Turning around Latour, or: What is “Cosmopolitical” about Environmental Objects, like Whales?
- Oct. 6 **Yochai Benkler** (Harvard Law School)
The Science of Cooperation and Progressive Social Theory
- Oct. 20 **Robert Truog** (Harvard Medical School/Children’s Hospital)
Death, Brain Death, and the Ethics of Organ Transplantation
- Oct. 27 **Alex Wellerstein** (Harvard University)
Selling Secrecy: Laser Fusion, Classification, and the Turbulent 1970s
- Nov. 3 **John Carson** (University of Michigan)
Drawing Things Together: STS and the History of Science
- Nov. 17 **Sharon Traweek** (UCLA)
Scientists’ Career Narratives and Collaborative Research in Europe, Japan, and the US
- Nov. 24 **Adelheid Voskuhl** (Harvard University)
The Mechanics of Sentiment: Women Automata and the Culture of Affect in the European Enlightenment
- Dec. 1 **Paul Shapiro** (Humane Society of the United States)
Technology’s Role in Factory Farming: Animal Welfare, Public Health, the Environment, and How to Make Progress
- Dec. 8 **David Kaiser** (MIT)
Searching for Stability: Nuclear Physics and Fraud at Cold War’s End

STS Circle Spring 2009

- Feb. 9 **Phil Loring** (Harvard University)
Coaxing Black Boxes to Speak English: Verbal Computers as Boundary Machines in 1950s Linguistics
- Feb. 23 **Kenneth Prewitt** (Columbia University)
Social Science Evidence for Use
- Mar. 2 **Michael B. McElroy** (Harvard University)
Options for a Low-Carbon Energy Future
- Mar. 16 **Andrew Jewett** (Harvard University)
Before the Received View: Social Theories of Science in Interwar America
- Mar. 30 **Harry R. Lewis** (Harvard University)
Steps Toward an Undergraduate Concentration in Technology and Society
- Apr. 6 **Nasser Zakariya** (Harvard University)
Origins of Epic Authorship: A Vision of Scientific Synthesis in the 1990s
- Apr. 13 **Claude Rosental** (CNRS & Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales)
Public Demonstrations of Technology: Sociology and Politics
- Apr. 20 **Vincent Lepinay** (MIT)
Sketch of Derivation: Insights from Wall Street and Atlantic Africa
- Apr. 27 **Andrew Lakoff** (UCSD)
Cold War Systems in Crisis: The Concept of Resilience from Psychology to Ecology



Flier image: A scope from September 1946 shows one of the first hurricane structures imaged with radar technology. Courtesy of the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Flier image: Workers finalize nose pieces of A-20 attack bombers in Long Beach, California, October 1942. Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

STS Circle Fall 2009

- Sep. 14 **Sam Schweber** (History of Science, Brandeis)
Hans Bethé: Writing a Sociological Biography
- Sep. 21 **Jimena Canales** (History of Science, Harvard)
A History of A Tenth of a Second
- Sep. 28 **Etienne Benson** (Center for the Environment, Harvard)
Leviathan and the Whale
- Oct. 5 **Harriet Ritvo** (History, MIT)
Making Animals Wild
- Oct. 19 **Samuel Evans** (STS Program, Harvard)
Anomalies in the Classification of Technology: Illustrations from the Military/Non-Military Divide
- Oct. 26 **Ian Schillinger** (U.S. Navy)
Sea Stories: What the Nuclear Navy taught me about Systemic Risk
- Nov. 2 **Daniel Metlay** (U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board)
Yucca Mountain: Reflections on a Repository Sixty Years in the Making
- Nov. 9 **Sophia Roosth** (STS, MIT)
Crafting the Biological: Open-Sourcing Life Science, from Synthetic Biology to Garage Biotech
- Nov. 16 **Jay Aronson** (History, Carnegie Mellon University)
Truth Commissions: Technologies of Repair or Social Autopsies?
- Nov. 23 **Mary-Jo Good** (Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School)
Technologies of Intervention and Trauma Treatment in Postconflict Aceh, Indonesia
- Nov. 30 **Kris Saha** (Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, MIT)
Constructing and Deconstructing Disease in a Dish

STS Circle Spring 2010

- Feb. 1 **Christopher Jones** (Center for the Environment, Harvard)
Oil Landscapes: Pipelines, Environment, and Society, 1859-1900
- Feb. 8 **Hallam Stevens** (History of Science, Harvard)
What It Means to Be Productive: Seeing and Doing in a High-Throughput Genome Sequencing Center
- Feb. 22 **Judy Norsigian** (Our Bodies Ourselves)
Genetic Technologies and their Impact on Women's Health: Selected Case Studies
- Mar. 1 **Sang-Hyun Kim** (Hanyang University)
Seeing Beyond the Developmental State? Social Movements and the Politics of Science & Technology in South Korea
- Mar. 8 **Jeff Skopek** (Harvard Law School)
The Epistemology of the Commerce Clause
- Mar. 22 **Laura Stark** (Sociology, Wesleyan)
On Being Normal in Abnormal Places: A Scandal-Free History of Institutional Review Boards
- Mar. 29 **Bill Rankin** (History of Science, Harvard)
Standardization or Infrastructure? Cartography and the History of Geographic Space
- Apr. 5 **Ben Hurlbut** (STS, Harvard Kennedy School)
Representing Reason: Human Embryo Research and the Politics of Public Bioethics
- Apr. 12 **Archon Fung** (Harvard Kennedy School)
The Principle of Affected Interests: The Circle of Inclusion in Contemporary Democracy
- Apr. 26 **Jeremy Greene** (History of Science, Harvard)
Generic Medicines and the Science of Similarity
- May 3 **Evelyn Fox Keller** (STS, MIT)
Climategate, Science and Democracy



Flier image: The Large Binocular Telescope, a large optical/infrared telescope that utilizes two 8.4 meter diameter mirrors, is being built in Arizona as a collaboration among institutions in the United States, Italy, and Germany. Photo courtesy of Aaron Ceranski and the Large Binocular Telescope Observatory.



Flier image: Sea anemones unfurled on a coral reef. Photo courtesy of the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

STS Circle Fall 2010

- Sep. 13 **I. Glenn Cohen** (Harvard Law School)
Well, What About the Children?: Best Interests Reasoning, The New Eugenics, and the Regulation of Reproduction
- Sep. 20 **Alex Csiszar** (History of Science, Harvard)
Managing Science by Numbers: The Emergence of the Modern Scientific Journal
- Sep. 27 **Pablo Boczkowski** (Northwestern University)
News at Work: Imitation in an Age of Information Abundance
- Oct. 4 **Christophe Bonneuil** (CNRS and INRA-SenS, IFRIS, France)
To See or Not to See Transgenes in Mexican Landraces: Global Science and Cultural Domination
- Oct. 18 **Sara Wylie** (HASTS, MIT)
ExtrACT: Studying Chemicals and Corporations through STS in Practice
- Oct. 25 **Shun-ling Chen** (Harvard Law School)
Collaborative Authorship, from Folklore to the Wikiborg
- Nov. 1 **Allison MacFarlane** (George Mason University)
A Free-For-All? Impacts of Emerging Nuclear Energy Countries
- Nov. 8 **Jamie Cohen-Cole** (History of Science, Harvard)
Personifying Rationality: 1960s Social Science and the Problem of Objectivity
- Nov. 15 **Ian Miller** (History, Harvard)
Pandas in the Anthropocene: Japan's "Panda Boom" and the End of Nature
- Nov. 22 **Judith Layzer** (Urban Studies and Planning, MIT)
Science and Storytelling in Environmental Politics
- Nov. 29 **Joshua Greene** (Psychology, Harvard)
The Moral Brain and How To Use It

Science and Democracy Lectures

The Science and Democracy lectures ask how democratic societies can make better choices in designing their scientific and technological futures. The series addresses a broad range of issues at the intersection of science, technology, and society: environment, development, information and communication, medicine and health, innovation, science and government, and higher education. Lectures are followed by interdisciplinary panel discussions and public debate. Speakers and panelists have included eminent natural scientists, social theorists, humanists, writers, and public officials. These events draw large and enthusiastic audiences of faculty, students, and staff from the entire Harvard community.

April 3, 2008

Enhancing the Contract: The Federal Government and American Science in a New Administration

Harold Varmus

President of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; former Director, National Institutes of Health (1993-1999); Nobel Laureate, 1989

"Many observers have commented on the damage that the current administration has done to science over the past seven years. ... I will evaluate the effects of this era on the traditional relationship between the scientific enterprise and the federal government, and offer some ideas about what a new administration could do to restore that relationship, increase the confidence of the scientific community in government, and allow the nation to take greater advantage of science and technology."

WITH PANELISTS

David Goldston

Center for the Environment, Harvard University

Sheila Jasanoff

Harvard Kennedy School

Charles Rosenberg

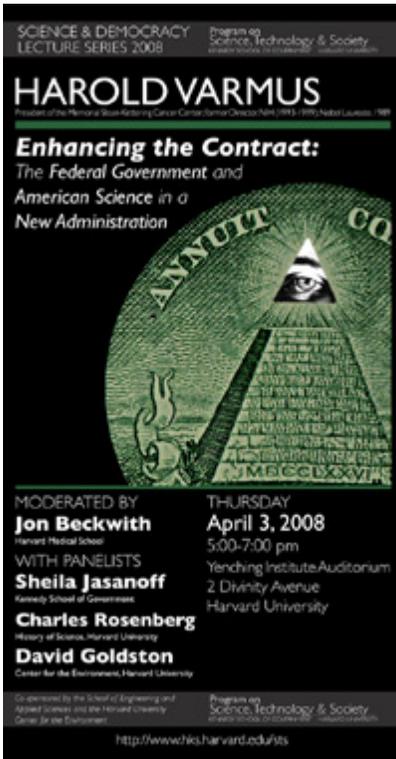
History of Science, Harvard University

MODERATED BY

Jon Beckwith

Harvard Medical School

Co-sponsored by the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Harvard University Center for the Environment.



On the STS website:

Video excerpts from Varmus' talk, and more photographs.

November 12, 2008

Risk Society's Cosmopolitan Moment: Climate Change and the Opportunity for a New World Order

Ulrich Beck

Professor of Sociology, University of Munich; British Journal of Sociology Professor, London School of Economics

"Growing certainty that climate change is human-made and will have catastrophic consequences has reshuffled the cards for society and politics across the entire world. But it is a mistake to see climate change as an irreversible path to an apocalyptic future for humankind. Beyond belief and beyond hope, climate change opens up the opportunity to overcome the bounds of national politics and to found a 'cosmopolitan realism' in the interests of nation states. Climate change is pure ambivalence. But it is precisely this feature that can be uncovered by the art and practice of the sociologist's methodological skepticism and be publicly turned against the dominant (discourses of?) cynicism and paralysis. In this sense, the sociology of climate change can serve as a heuristic for the productive creativity of uncertain times."

WITH PANELISTS

Peter Hall

Government, Harvard University

Michèle Lamont

Sociology, Harvard University

Brian Wynne

Lancaster University

SCIENCE & DEMOCRACY LECTURE SERIES 2008 Program on Science, Technology & Society

ULRICH BECK
Professor of Sociology, University of Munich; British Journal of Sociology Professor, London School of Economics

Risk Society's Cosmopolitan Moment
Climate change and the opportunity for a new world order

WITH PANELISTS
Peter Hall
Government, Harvard University
Michele Lamont
Sociology, Harvard University
Brian Wynne
Lancaster University

MODERATED BY
Sheila Jasanoff
Harvard Kennedy School

WEDNESDAY
November 12, 2008
5:00-7:00 pm
Tsai Auditorium
1730 Cambridge Street
CGIS Building
Harvard University

Co-sponsored by the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Harvard University Center for the Environment. Program on Science, Technology & Society
<http://www.dhs.harvard.edu/its>

MODERATED BY

Sheila Jasanoff

Harvard Kennedy School

Co-sponsored by the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Harvard University Center for the Environment..

March 11, 2009

Connected Publics: Power and Politics in a Networked Age

How do the new forms of connectivity enabled by the internet affect flows of power in society? Does electronic communication create new forms of self-identification, new political sensibilities, or new avenues of empowerment? Or do old hierarchies get reinforced and familiar divisions, such as those between male and female or right and left, get more firmly entrenched through new routines? How do design choices affect relationships of power, for example, by selecting who should be connected to whom and across what sorts of spaces? How are today's public spheres changing and shifting along with the new democratic imaginations taking shape in cyberspace?

A PANEL DISCUSSION FEATURING

Yochai Benkler

Harvard Law School

Antoine Picon

Harvard Graduate School of Design

Lucy Suchman

Sociology, Lancaster University & MIT [visiting]

Sherry Turkle

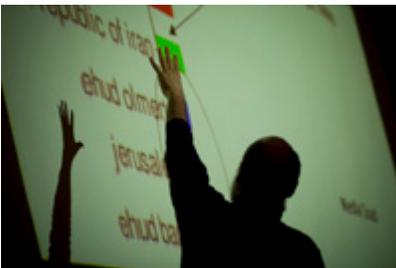
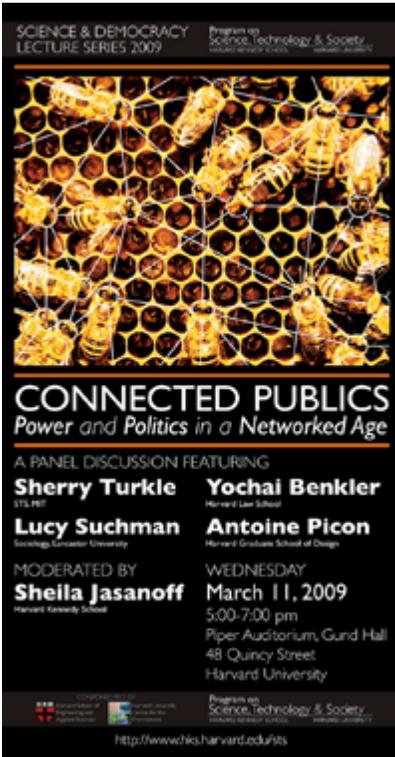
STS, MIT

MODERATED BY

Sheila Jasanoff

Harvard Kennedy School

Co-sponsored by the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Harvard University Center for the Environment.



On the STS website:
Video excerpts from the panel discussion, and more photographs.

December 2, 2009

Fault Lines: How Hidden Fractures Still Threaten the World Economy

Raghuram Rajan

Eric J. Gleacher Distinguished Service Professor of Finance,
the University of Chicago Booth School of Business

In his talk, Rajan traced the deepening fault lines in an economic system overly dependent on American consumption to power the world economy and stave off a global downturn; a system where America's thin social safety net has created tremendous political pressure to keep job creation robust, because jobs are the primary provider of health and other benefits; and where the U.S. financial sector, with its skewed incentives, is the critical but unstable link between an overstimulated America and an underconsuming world.

WITH PANELISTS

Suzanne Berger

Political Science, MIT

Frank Dobbin

Sociology, Harvard University

Niall Ferguson

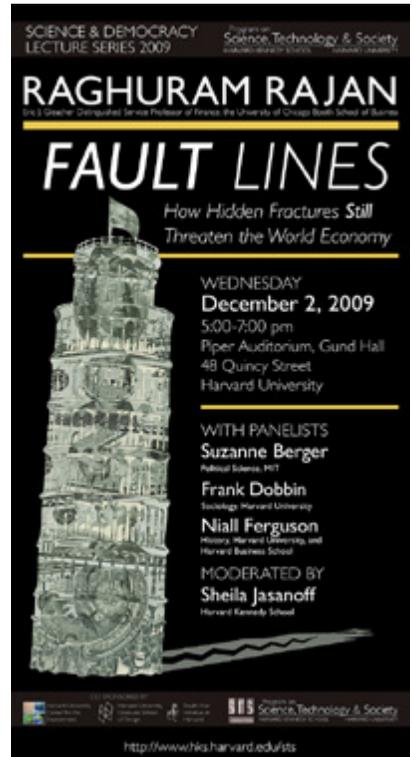
History, Harvard University, and Harvard Business School

MODERATED BY

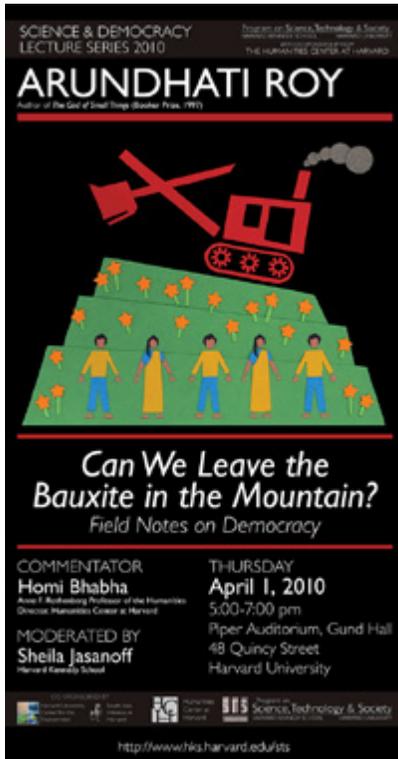
Sheila Jasanoff

Harvard Kennedy School

Co-sponsored by the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the Graduate School of Design, and the South Asia Initiative at Harvard, and the Harvard University Center for the Environment.



On the STS website:
Video excerpts from
Rajan's talk and the panel
discussion



On the STS website:
Video excerpts from Roy's talk, along with additional photos

April 1, 2010

Can We Leave the Bauxite in the Mountain? Field Notes on Democracy

Arundhati Roy

Author, *The God of Small Things*

“What happens once democracy has been used up? When it has been hollowed out and emptied of meaning? What happens when each of its institutions has metastasized into something dangerous? What happens now that democracy and the free market have fused into a single predatory organism with a thin, constricted imagination that revolves almost entirely around the idea of maximizing profit? Is it possible to reverse this process? Can something that has mutated go back to being what it used to be?”

COMMENTATOR

Homi Bhabha

Anne F. Rothenberg Professor of the Humanities
Director, Humanities Center at Harvard

MODERATED BY

Sheila Jasanoff

Harvard Kennedy School

Co-sponsored by the Harvard Humanities Center, the Harvard University Center for the Environment, the South Asia Initiative at Harvard, and the Graduate School of Design, as well as RILES (Resource Institute for Low Entropy Systems).

November 30, 2010

Designing a University for America's Complex Future

Michael Crow

President, Arizona State University

"America is a nation of between 300 and 400 million people that is still growing and that has needs that are vastly more complex than any of the designs our historical higher education system has the capacity to address. There are intricacy issues, global competitiveness issues, performance issues, fiscal issues, as well as more fundamental issues associated with the types of knowledge we are producing and how we are transferring that knowledge to students in higher learning institutions. With that in mind, and with a very narrow differentiation between U.S. universities, the basic design and structure of a new class of higher education institution will be outlined."

WITH PANELISTS

James Kloppenberg

History, Harvard University

Cherry A. Murray

Dean, Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Daniel P. Schrag

Director, Harvard University Center for the Environment

MODERATED BY

Sheila Jasanoff

Harvard Kennedy School

Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Center for the Environment, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and the Graduate School of Design.

SCIENCE & DEMOCRACY LECTURE SERIES 2010
Center for Science, Technology & Society

MICHAEL CROW
President, Arizona State University

Designing a University for America's Complex Future

WITH PANELISTS
James Kloppenberg
Chair, History, Harvard University
Cherry A. Murray
Dean, Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Daniel P. Schrag
Director, Harvard University Center for the Environment

TUESDAY
November 30, 2010
5:00-7:00 pm
Piper Auditorium, Gund Hall
48 Quincy Street
Harvard University

MODERATED BY
Sheila Jasanoff
Harvard Kennedy School

Center for Science, Technology & Society
<http://www.hks.harvard.edu/its>

STS Workshops

The STS Program hosts a wide variety of workshops reflecting the interests of Program fellows and affiliates in intersection with important public issues and events. Workshops benefit from the wealth of STS talent and expertise in the greater Boston area, attracting participants from Harvard, MIT, and many other universities. Recent events have included a spirited session on science blogging, a commemoration of C.P. Snow's "two cultures" lecture on its 50th anniversary, and a discussion of race and the census.

April 14, 2008

Explaining Religion: Naturalism With and Without Scientism

Barbara Herrnstein-Smith

Braxton Craven Professor of Comparative Literature and English, and Director, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Science and Cultural Theory, Duke University; Distinguished Professor of English, Brown University



A series of recent studies have offered to explain various features of religion on the basis of current research and theory in evolutionary biology and cognitive science, a project that Barbara Herrnstein-Smith calls the New Naturalism. In discussing the project and some of the conceptual, methodological, and ideological issues it raises, Herrnstein-Smith focused on Pascal Boyer, *Religion Explained: The Evolutionary Origins of Religious Thought* (2001), as well as Walter Burkert, *Creation of the Sacred: Tracks of Biology in Early Religions* (1995), which represents a significantly broader intellectual tradition in the naturalistic study of religion.

April 18, 2008

Emerging Technologies and Regulatory Cultures

The aim of this workshop was to consider theoretical and empirical contributions to regulatory studies of science and technology from several fields, as well as to lay the basis for interdisciplinary conversations among researchers in the Boston area. Workshop contributions came from varied disciplines, including science and technology studies (STS), history, anthropology, political science, public policy, law, and sociology. The meeting aimed to review new strategies of regulation, as well as to highlight second and third generation work on law, regulation, science and technology by several leading practitioners.



On the STS website:

The final report of this workshop, prepared by Monika Kurath and Sheila Jasanoff

April 28, 2008

Beyond the Creation-Evolution Controversy: Science and Religion in Public Life

In an effort to break through the impasse created by the entrenched Creation-Evolution controversy, this panel brought together an impressive, interdisciplinary group of experts from law, sociology, history of science, and journalism. The speakers—the preeminent biographer of Charles Darwin, a journalist, a sociologist, and one of the lawyers involved in the recent *Kitzmiller v. Dover* case—described from their professional perspectives and personal experience, what is at stake—socially, politically, and epistemically—in the debate over evolution, and how a more nuanced understanding of this phenomenon might lead to more productive conversations between science and religion. The panel considered how claims about the superiority of one form of knowledge over another are wrapped up in the American politics of cultural authority and with concerns regarding the freedom of thought and belief.



PANELISTS

Janet Browne

History of Science,
Harvard University

Cornelia Dean

The New York Times

John H. Evans

Sociology, UC San Diego

Eric Rothschild

Pepper Hamilton LLP
(*Kitzmiller v. Dover*)

MODERATED BY

Sheila Jasanoff

Harvard Kennedy School



On the STS website:

Photos from the *Beyond the Creation-Evolution Controversy* workshop

February 23, 2009

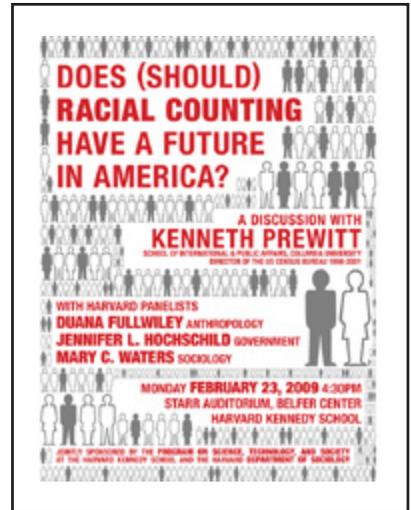
Does (Should) Racial Counting Have a Future in America?

Kenneth Prewitt

Carnegie Professor of Public Affairs, Columbia University;
Director of the US Census Bureau 1998-2001

“Since 1790 race statistics have been central to various policy regimes across American history. But the turn to immigrant driven diversity, identify fueled multiculturalism, and majority-minority demographics have rendered obsolete a taxonomy rooted in 18th century natural science. What today we are learning from racial statistics is not what we need to be learning.”

Followed by a panel discussion with **Duana Fullwiley** (Anthropology, Harvard), **Jennifer L. Hochschild** (Government, Harvard), **Mary C. Waters** (Sociology, Harvard). Moderated by **Sheila Jasanoff** (Harvard Kennedy School).



April 8, 2009

How Professors Think: Inside the Curious World of Academic Judgment

Michèle Lamont

Robert I. Goldman Professor of European Studies and
Professor of Sociology and African and African American Studies, Harvard University

A panel discussion Michèle Lamont's book about decisionmaking within the academic environment with **Sheila Jasanoff** (Harvard Kennedy School), **Claude Rosental** (CNRS), **Steven Shapin** (History of Science, Harvard), and **Christopher Winship** (Sociology, Harvard).

Both events co-sponsored by the Harvard University Department of Sociology.

May 7-8, 2009

Cultures in Common: 50 Years of Reflection on Science, Technology, and Society



OPENING PANEL (MAY 7):

Joyce Chaplin

History, Harvard University

Evelyn Fox Keller

STS, MIT

James McCarthy

Organismic and Evolutionary Biology,
Harvard University

Venky Narayanamurti

School of Engineering and Applied
Sciences, Harvard University

Steven Shapin

History of Science, Harvard University

Laurence Tribe

Constitutional Law, Harvard University
Professor

On the 50th anniversary of C.P. Snow's famous lecture, "The Two Cultures," the Program on Science, Technology & Society, together with the Harvard University Center for the Environment, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the Humanities Center at Harvard, and the STS Program at MIT, presented a panel discussion and workshop reassessing the "two cultures" question today. A distinguished roster of speakers from Harvard, MIT, and beyond explored the many ways in which the cultures of science—far from standing apart from the rest of the academic disciplines—are in constant conversation with the cultures of the humanities, the social sciences, the arts, the law, and, not least, engineering and applied sciences.



On the STS website:

The full roster of the May 8 workshop, plus a write-up of the event from the *Harvard Gazette*

May 3, 2010

Reputation and Power: Organizational Image and Pharmaceutical Regulation at the FDA

Daniel Carpenter

Freed Professor of Government, Harvard University

This book launch and panel discussion centered around Daniel Carpenter's book about the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, *Reputation and Power*:

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is the most powerful regulatory agency in the world. How did the FDA become so influential? And how exactly does it wield its extraordinary power? Reputation and Power traces the history of FDA regulation of pharmaceuticals, revealing how the agency's organizational reputation has been the primary source of its power, yet also one of its ultimate constraints.

WITH PANELISTS

Joshua Sharfstein

Principal Deputy Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Charles Rosenberg

History of Science, Harvard

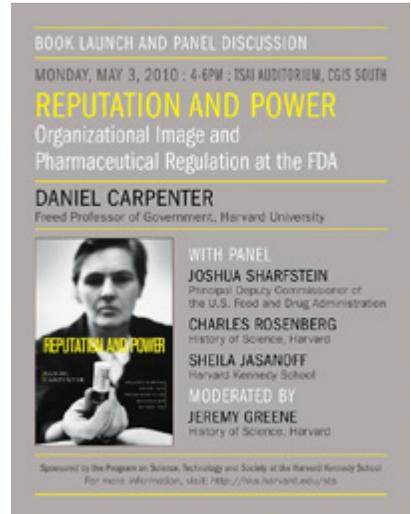
Sheila Jasanoff

Harvard Kennedy School

MODERATED BY

Jeremy Greene

History of Science, Harvard, and Harvard Medical School



On the STS website:
 The full video of the *Reputation and Power* panel, along with photos.

April 30, 2010

Unruly Democracy: Science Blogs and the Public Sphere



On the STS website:

The full video of the *Unruly Democracy* conference, along with photos.

The blogosphere represents a new kind of deliberative space that is both enlarging and constraining public discourse in unprecedented ways. One key factor about this space, the issue this workshop seeks to explore, is its lack of norms. It is an unruly space in the sense that there are no well defined rules of entry, access, or conduct, except for extreme forms of behavior that are positively illegal. The consequences of this unruliness have been specially severe for scientific communication, which depends on high standards of truth-telling and civility for its progress. In turn, the erosion of scientific standards destabilizes the foundations of democratic deliberation. Can norms of discourse that would advance science and democracy be developed in the blogosphere? Can blogs induce deliberation or must they encourage fragmentation, extremism, and rage to the detriment of public reason? Is science helped or hurt by the new media? What particular distorting factors enter the picture as blogging becomes a business?

Featuring talks by: **Sam Bayard** (Citizen Media Law Project), **Henry Donahue** (CEO, Discover), **Amanda Gefter** (New Scientist), **“Dr. Isis”** (ScienceBlogs), **Gideon Gil** (Science Editor, Boston Globe), **Francesca Grifo** (Union of Concerned Scientists), **Phil Hiltz** (Knight Program, MIT), **Kimberley Isbell** (Citizens Media Law Project), **Sheila Jasanoff** (STS, HKS), **Thomas Levenson** (MIT), **Chris Mooney** (MIT and Discover), **Joy Moore** (Seed magazine; ScienceBlogs), **Jessica Palmer** (ScienceBlogs: *Bioephemera*), **Joseph Romm** (Center for American Progress), and **Cristine Russell** (Harvard Kennedy School).

Jointly sponsored by the Program on Science, Technology and Society at the Harvard Kennedy School, the Shorenstein Center at the Harvard Kennedy School, and the Knight Science Journalism program at MIT.

Science and Democracy Network

Founded in 2002, the Science and Democracy Network is an international association of STS scholars whose primary aim is to enhance the quality and significance of scholarship on the role of S&T in public policy. SDN sponsors an annual meeting that links studies of science and technology policy with important theoretical perspectives from science and technology studies. Particularly committed to career development, SDN provides training opportunities for young STS scholars so that they can participate more effectively in decision processes and public affairs, as well as in more traditional academic contexts. A recent highlight was SDN's co-hosting of its 9th Annual Meeting with Britain's Royal Society on the occasion of the latter's 350th anniversary.

For more information about SDN, visit the SDN website at <http://hks.harvard.edu/sdn>

7th Annual SDN Meeting June 29–July 1, 2008 Harvard University Cambridge, Mass.



On the STS website:
Photographs and a full report
summarizing the talks given
and discussions held at the 2008
SDN annual meeting.



SESSIONS:

Session 1: Models and Meanings

Chair: Rob Hagendijk (Universiteit van Amsterdam)

Session 2: Making and Managing Novelty

Chair: David Winickoff (University of California, Berkeley)

Session 3: S&TS and the Problem of Democratization

Chair: Shobita Parthasarathy (Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor)

Session 4: Testing Co-Production — Case Studies

Chair: Regula Valérie Burri (Harvard Kennedy School)

Session 5: Life and Its Values

Chair: Stephen Hilgartner (Cornell University)

Session 6: Science and Politics Beyond the Nation State

Chair: Sang-Hyun Kim (Harvard Kennedy School)



8th Annual SDN Meeting

June 29–July 1, 2009
Harvard University
Cambridge, Mass.

SESSIONS:

Session 1: **Session 1: Democracy**

Chair: Les Levidow (Open University)

Session 2: **Scientists at Work**

Chair: Ulrike Felt (University of Vienna)

Session 3: **Intellectual Property**

Chair: David Winickoff (University of California, Berkeley)

Session 4: **Science, State, Co-production**

Chair: Andrew S. Mathews (Univ. of California, Santa Cruz)

Session 5: **Science and Decisions**

Chair: Ângela Pereira (European Commission, Joint Research Centre)

Session 6: **Legitimacy, Ethics, and Trust**

Chair: Kjetil Rommetveit (University of Bergen)

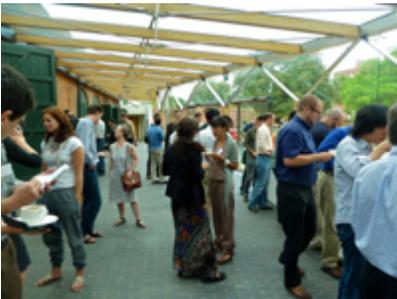


On the STS website:
Photographs and a full report
summarizing the talks given
and discussions held at the 2009
SDN annual meeting.

9th Annual SDN Meeting

June 28-30, 2010

Kavli Royal Society
International Centre,
Chicheley Hall, UK



SESSIONS:

Session 1: **Science and Social Responsibility**

Chair: Tim Forsyth (London School of Economics)

Session 2: **Science for Consumption**

Chair: David Guston (Arizona State University)

Session 3: **New Regimes of Participation**

Chair: Ulrike Felt (University of Vienna)

Session 4: **Scientific Advice and the Crisis of Credibility in Contemporary Democracies**

(Roundtable discussion)

Session 5: **Technologies of Security**

Chair: David Winickoff (University of California, Berkeley)

Session 6: **States and Spaces**

Chair: Clark Miller (Arizona State University)

Session 7: **Political Subjects**

Chair: Shobita Parthasarathy (Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor)

Initiatives

Collaborations

The STS Program has established important international collaborations in research, teaching, and training. In 2008, the Program together with EMBL and the European School of Molecular Medicine (SEMM) in Milan hosted a Summer School on “Deconstructing and Reconstructing Life: From Classification to Design.” Additional joint activities with SEMM include occasional lectures in Milan by STS director Sheila Jasanoff and fellowships in STS at Harvard for SEMM doctoral students. In 2007 the STS Program co-hosted the Annual Meeting of the Science and Democracy Network (SDN) with the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) at the University of Cambridge. SDN’s 2010 Annual Meeting was again held in Britain, in collaboration with the Royal Society.

Research Platforms

The STS Program is in the process of developing web-based interactive research platforms to offer introductions to key STS concepts developed by researchers in the Program. The first such platform reflects work done under a grant from the National Science Foundation on “Sociotechnical Imaginaries and Science and Technology Policy: A Cross-National Comparison.”

Undergraduate Research

The STS Program encourages undergraduate research on science, technology and society. One approach is to advise senior theses in concentrations such as History of Science, Environmental Science and Public Policy, Social Studies, and Anthropology. Recent Hoopes Prize winners with STS thesis interests include Rachel Garwin (ESPP 2007), P. Jeffrey Leopando (Anthropology 2009), and Zach Arnold (Social Studies 2010). The Program also employs undergraduate researchers and assistants, several of whom have participated in shaping Program activities: Henry Cowles (ESPP 2008), Spring Greeney (ESPP 2009), and William Firestone (Social Studies 2010).

Continued on next page

Cambridge Crossroads

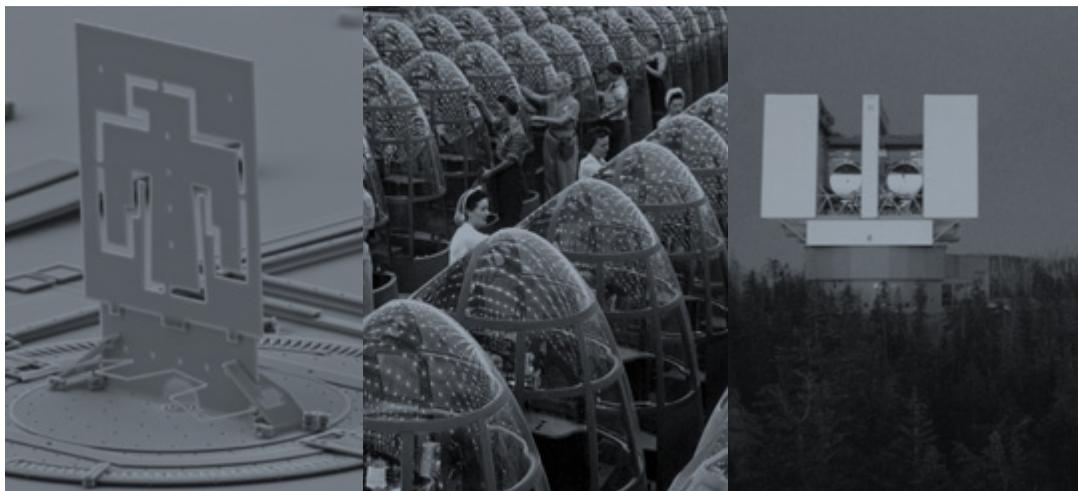
STS Fellows worked with student groups at MIT and Harvard to organize the first Science Technology and Policy Crossroads event on May 1, 2010. This bi-annual event will offer students a chance to learn about a broad range of career paths in science and technology policy and interact with academics and practitioners in the field.

“Who Knows?” Series

Through the Science and Democracy Network, and with support from the Bassetti Foundation, the STS Program is planning the publication of a series of booklets describing the knowledge-making practices of powerful governing institutions, such as the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, and the European Patent Office.

Graduate Secondary Field

The STS Program administers a Secondary Field in Science, Technology and Society under the auspices of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. The Secondary Field offers doctoral candidates the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the workings of science and technology in relation to other social institutions and processes. The STS Secondary Field serves a wide range of student interests and career plans. It is available to candidates for the Ph.D., Doctor of Design, and SJD degrees.



Research Projects

Sociotechnical Imaginaries and Science and Technology Policy: A Cross-National Comparison

In modern industrial societies, science and technology are seen as powerful drivers of social and economic progress and therefore as one of a nation's most promising policy targets. Specific policy choices, however, are grounded in distinctive national imaginations of what constitutes a desirable technoscientific future and in fears of not realizing that future or of suffering unintended harms from it. This project examined cross-national divergences in national sociotechnical imaginaries, looking particularly at nuclear power, stem cell research, and nanotechnology. As documented by project participants, sociotechnical imaginaries help account for the ways in which multiple framings or narratives circulating in a given society are filtered and packaged into dominant modes of public action and associated public reasoning. The research also demonstrated how particular imaginaries achieve stability and long duration through repeated performances at multiple sites and through incorporation into discourses, practices, and artifacts. With support from Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, project leaders organized a workshop in 2008 to explore imaginaries at diverse scales. An edited volume based on that workshop is in preparation. *Supported by NSF Award # SES-0724133.*

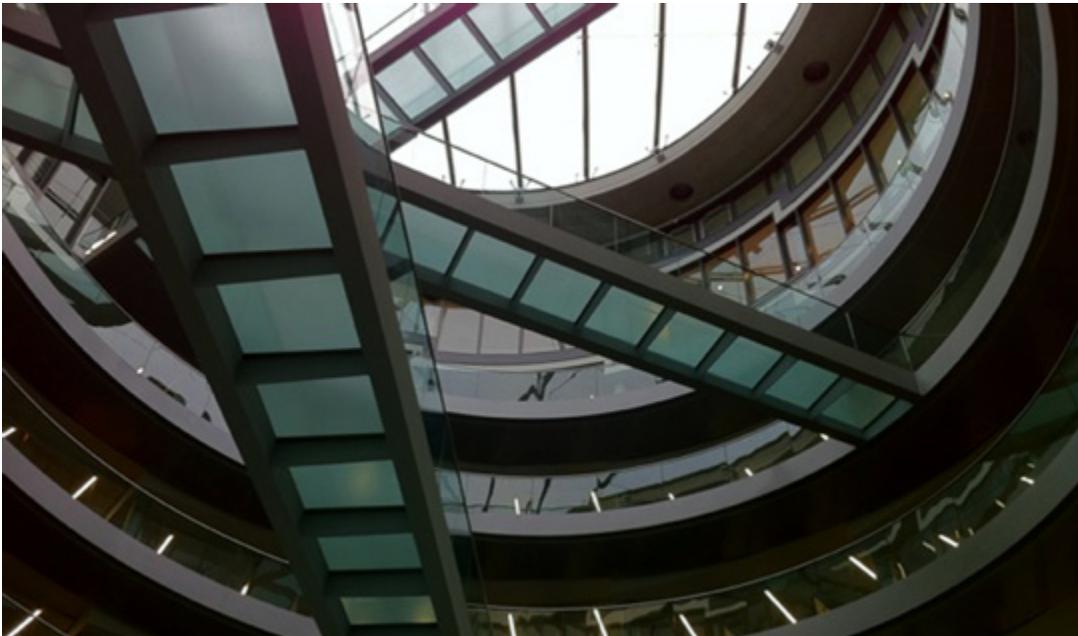
Evidence Observed: *Daubert's* Impact on Science and Justice

In 1993, the US Supreme Court decided a landmark case, *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*, that changed the rules for managing the introduction of scientific evidence into federal courts. The decision instructed trial judges to act as "gatekeepers" for scientific evidence and to ensure that expert testimony was both relevant and reliable. This research project examined the impact of *Daubert* and two successor cases on science and justice in the legal process. Among other findings, the study uncovered unexpected links between the Supreme Court's "evidence trilogy" and the rise of internet-based legal products and services. *Daubert's* implementation has become entangled in unexpected ways with far-reaching changes in legal practice, enabled in part by internet-based communications. These developments may ultimately have more impact on expert witnessing than the judicial supervision ordained by the Supreme Court. *Supported by NSF Award # SES-0850962.*

Continued on next page

Reframing Rights: Bioconstitutionalism in the Genetic Age

A forthcoming book with MIT Press showcases the STS Program's work across the disciplines and its contributions to empirically grounded theory building. *Reframing Rights* explores the evolving relationship of biology, biotechnology, and law through a series of national and cross-national case studies. Sheila Jasanoff maps out the conceptual territory in an introduction defining the notion of bioconstitutionalism. Subsequent contributions by former STS Fellows offer snapshots of transformative developments at the frontiers of biotechnology and the law. Topics include national cloning and xenotransplant policies; the politics of stem cell research in Britain, Germany, and Italy; DNA profiling and DNA databases in criminal law; clinical trials in India and the United States; the GM crop controversy in Britain; and precautionary policymaking in the European Union. These cases demonstrate changes of constitutional significance in the relations among human bodies, selves, science, and the state. *The original Reframing Rights project was supported by NSF Award # SES-9906834.*



Contact information

Program on Science, Technology and Society
Harvard University
John F. Kennedy School of Government
79 JFK Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Tel: 617-495-5636 Fax: 617-496-5960

E-mail: sts@hks.harvard.edu

Web: <http://hks.harvard.edu/sts/>



The STS Program owes an enormous debt to two exceptional administrators:

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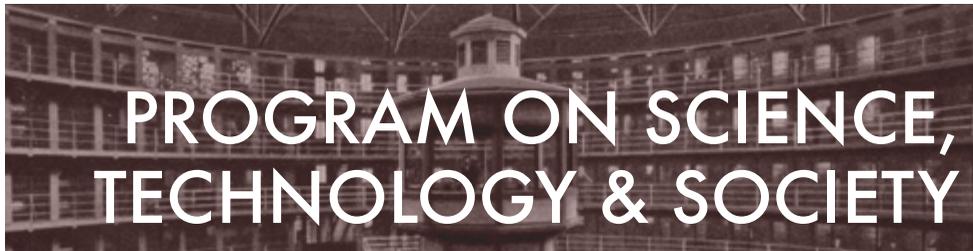
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This yearbook was designed by Alex Wellerstein for the STS Program.



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