From the Section Chair

Michael Lynch, Cornell University

The main event for our section is, of course the ASA annual meetings. Because of its location in San Francisco, we expect a large turnout for this meeting, and I hope to see many of you there. The ASA schedules section activities together, and all of the SKAT events will be on Sunday, August 15. (As I mentioned in the Spring Newsletter, the ASA program also includes a number of other sessions on sociology of science, knowledge, technology and medicine, independent of those sponsored by the SKAT Section. These will be held throughout the meetings.)

On August 15, we have a full slate of events, with three paper sessions, a full roster of roundtables, a business meeting, and a reception. The preliminary program is available on the ASA website, and further details also are in this Newsletter. I hope that members of this Section will make a special effort to attend as many of our sessions as possible. Aside from the fact that there will be many interesting papers in the sessions and roundtables, the ASA keeps a head count, which can have some influence on future section resources. And please come to the business meeting! It will be a brief 40-minute opportunity to meet with other members of the Section, discuss ideas for the future, and congratulate winners of the Robert K. Merton Professional (book) Award, and the Sally Hacker/Nicholas Mullins (student paper) Prize.

We are currently making plans for the SKAT Section reception, which also will be held on August 15, in the evening. At the 2003 ASA meetings in Atlanta, we held our reception at a local restaurant rather than in the conference hotel suite. The idea of getting out of the hotels (and avoiding the exorbitant rates the hotels charge for refreshments) proved to be very popular, and we plan to do it again. The section budget will cover appetizers and a limited number of drinks, but members attending the reception will be encouraged to stay and have further drinks and dinner at their own expense. When final arrangements are made, I will send announcements through our listserv about the time and place the reception.

One request I would like to make to Section members who will be attending the meetings is to encourage any ASA colleagues you run into who are not current members, to sign up for the SKAT Section. Many people join the ASA at the annual meetings, and so this is an excellent time to encourage them to invest a little extra in a section membership. Unlike the overall ASA membership, which needless to say is pricey, the extra increment for the section is not much extra ($12 for regular members; $5 for students). The number of members in our session has hovered at around 400 for the past few years, and it’s important to keep above that threshold. As I mentioned in the Spring Newsletter, you can also help out other sections – and especially some of the smaller and newer sections – by signing up for them. I listed several of those, but inadvertently failed to list one section that may be of particular interest: Communication and Information Technology. This section formerly was known as Sociology and Computing, and the name change reflects an interest in a broader set of topics having to do with the social role of the internet and other information technologies, in addition to the earlier interest in the use of computing in sociological research and teaching. For further information, contact Barry Wellman <wellman@chass.utoronto.ca> the current Membership Chair and Chair-Elect.

Finally, it is my pleasure to announce the election results for the SKAT Council. In the Spring 2004 Newsletter, I listed a roster of candidates for a 3-year council position and a 1-year student representative on the council. After the Spring Newsletter was published, the ASA informed us that we were eligible to elect a second member for a 3-year term, and so we quickly expanded our list of candidates. The SKAT membership elected two ‘regular’ council members with terms expiring in 2007, and one student member who will serve 2004-05. I’d like to thank all of you who voted in the election, and to congratulate the winners: Susan Silbey and Christopher Henke for the 3-year position, and Aryn Martin for the student representative. Their terms will begin immediately after this year’s ASA meeting. I’m really looking forward to working with our three new members, as well as the continuing SKAT Section officers.
As scholars in science studies understand particularly clearly, introductory graduate courses serve multiple functions; not only do they transmit knowledge and socialize novices, but they also mark disciplinary territory and redraw intellectual maps. In a self-consciously “new” or “emerging” field, such as science and technology studies, these courses are particularly important. This short article is aimed at promoting intellectual exchange and information sharing about such courses by briefly describing the approach taken by Cornell’s graduate program in Science & Technology Studies. In future articles, perhaps faculty from other graduate programs will describe how they have addressed these issues.

Since the founding of its Ph.D. program in science & technology studies in 1991, Cornell’s faculty and students have devoted much effort to considering how to introduce new graduate students to this emerging discipline. Over time, the graduate program developed a number of requirements and informal practices designed to ensure that students get a broad and deep exposure to the field. These requirements include taking “STS 711: Introduction to Science & Technology Studies” during the first semester in the graduate program. This course also serves to introduce graduate students from throughout the university to the field. STS 711 took shape over a number of years, and its design was heavily influenced by a number of faculty, especially Peter Dear, along with Ron Kline, Trevor Pinch, and others.

The challenge of creating an introductory graduate course in science & technology studies is significant. The usual problems of having too much to cover in the allotted time are greatly complicated by the ambiguous boundaries of the field, its dynamic and rapid growth, and its “roots” in more traditional approaches to the study of science and technology embodied in such “subfields” as history of science, philosophy of science, sociology of science, and, more recently, anthropology of science. Moreover, because the Cornell program emphasizes both historical and contemporary studies, the course needs to span temporal periods. The course thus stretches across a range of topics, yet—like the field of science and technology studies more generally—is unified by its focus on the study of knowledge as a social phenomenon.

In an emerging area such as science studies, attempting to establish a rigid canon of central works is neither possible nor desirable. Instead, the Cornell program designed STS 711 around major “themes and issues” that occupy the field. To prevent the course from growing stale, it is taught by different members of the faculty in different years. Each faculty member makes changes and adjustments, but from year to year the course retains its focus on a similar set of major themes. In its most recent incarnation (see: www.sts.cornell.edu), classes addressed such topics as sociology of scientific knowledge; technology studies; actor-network theory; experiment and material constraints; seeing and believing; science, technology, and macro-politics; expertise and politics; gender; culture; procedures and practices; and the politics of science and technology studies. But far from being set in stone, the Cornell course is intended to evolve along with the field. No doubt many opportunities for cross-fertilization among graduate programs will present themselves as science and technology studies expands.

We would like to thank Katie Bartling for the excellent SKAT Newsletter redesign. You have seen her work in both the spring 2004 and this summer 2004 editions.

Katie Bartling works at the University of Nebraska Press as a Marketing Design and Web Intern. She will graduate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in August 2004 with a BFA in Studio Art. Her work has been featured in the Nebraska Art Teachers Association Exhibition, the Amy Foundation and the Nebraska ADDY's. Her design of the 2003-2004 American West Catalog was a 2003 Bronze ADDY award winner. Other publication design work includes The University of Nebraska Press Lewis and Clark Expedition flyer and covers for the scholarly books Myth and History in the Creation of Yellowstone National Park by Paul Schullery and Lee Whittlesey and The Social Context of Innovation by Anthony F.C. Wallace.

Reviewed by Mary C. Ingram, SKAT Book Review Editor and Doctoral Candidate, at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

How does the massive environmental crisis of the Guadalupe Dunes oil spill, the largest oil spill in US history, go unnoticed and untreated for almost 40 years?

In Silent Spill: The Organization of an Industrial Crisis, Thomas D. Beamish answers that question. He takes the Guadalupe Dunes oil spill as a case study of how creeping problems become blind spots until they reach visible crisis proportions. By interviewing Unocal workers, local community residents, policy-makers, and other government agency employees, as well as drawing on media reports and relevant policy documents, Beamish constructs what he calls a “career of knowledge” to trace who knew what and when about the Guadalupe Dunes oil spill. Through his analysis of these data, Beamish describes how processes of organizational inertia and social accommodation lead to what he poses as a new kind of genre of crises, crescive troubles. Crescive troubles, whether environmental or otherwise, creep steadily forward until the problem reaches a recognizable crisis. However, as Beamish shows with the Guadalupe Dunes oil spill, when such long-term and large-scale evils finally do come to light, they are so unwieldy that tracing the source of problem or potential remedies is nearly impossible.

Because some amount of oil spillage is part of day-to-day operations of oil extraction industries, Beamish begins his story at the oil fields of the Guadalupe Dunes, located just 170 miles north of Los Angeles, on the coast of California. He specifically asks: when does normal oil spillage become an environmental danger? The answer is complicated. For nearly 40 years, Unocal spilled oil on the Guadalupe Dunes before two whistleblowers finally came forward. Beamish finds, however, that while workers and foreman on the oil field had noted oil spillage all along, no one had reported the spills as anything out of the ordinary. Beamish concludes that boundaries of what is normal tend to creep, ever accommodating stretched definitions of what is normal and what is problematic. Organizations theorists have long noted the decoupling of an organization’s mission with its daily activities. Though Unocal had pledged to self-monitor its impact on the local environment, this mission was decoupled from other values and needs throughout the organization. For instance, field workers and foremen wanted to not only keep their jobs but also to avoid criminal prosecution for ignoring environmental hazards.

Beamish finds that Unocal was not the only organization to inappropriately handle the Guadalupe Dunes spill. Government agencies also overlooked the telltale signs of the oil spill. Inspections of the oil field were not thorough enough to denote the impending disaster. Further, government agencies trusted Unocal to self-report any environmental hazards. Beamish finds that these agencies lacked an infrastructure to recognize crescive problems. While agencies can respond to sudden disasters, such as the Exxon Valdez oil spill, they cannot define or otherwise properly address crescive problems like the Guadalupe Dunes spill. Even the local community failed to identify the magnitude of the oil spill until it was too late. Surfers and other beach users long noticed the oil smells and slicks before recognizing the out-of-the-ordinary nature of the spill.

Taken as a whole, Silent Spill’s most important contribution is to illustrate our lack of a model to understand and investigate crescive problems. Not only do policy makers, government agencies, and private corporations lack a framework for dealing with crescive problems, but social scientists do as well. Most social scientists study emergencies or sudden crises, and thus explain how organizations make risky decisions. Dianne Vaughan’s The Challenger Launch Decision is a prime example of this genre. Beamish, however, offers social scientists a model for understanding how creeping problems are blind spots until the problem is so massive that fixing it may do more damage than the problem itself.

Beamish’s Silent Spill would be fitting for a variety of curricula. Obviously, Silent Spill would appeal to students of environmental sociology as well as sociologists of science. However, his theoretical contributions to organizational and institutional paradigms make the book proper for those fields, as well. His case study methodology, which builds on interview data and content analysis of media excerpts and policy-related documents, is lucidly discussed in the appendices. Moreover, he makes clear relationships between his data analysis and theoretical developments. Thus, Silent Spill would be suitable for classes in methods. Finally, Silent Spill, in its entirety or specific chapters, would be appropriate for both undergraduate and graduate studies in any of the above listed fields.
Ireland, along with IT, has been part of the so-called Celtic Tiger economy boom of engaging with various publics. Since the theoretical background and qualitative communication output using the privileged that we can evaluate, assess communications at DCU. We feel experienced ex-journalist and backgrounds (which includes myself), working at BSS, both social science and developmental biology, funded by a state-run higher education initiative, the Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions and is developing a survey of embryonic stem cell research, arguing that it was a matter for public consultation particularly in light of the limited success of this technology (the NICB currently works on adult stem cells only). In 2002, the Irish Council for Bioethics was set up in response to an Irish government request to monitor ethical issues raised by developments in health and the biosciences.

All of this leaves BSS with a timely and interesting study on our hands. This is an opportunity to watch how scientists react and interact with various publics, whether they are interested concerned citizens, industry, media representatives, other scientists in similar areas of research, or school audiences. My colleague, Eve Merton, is studying the many different channels of communication the NICB are involved with, both within and outside the Institute, and is developing a survey instrument that maps scientist workplace communication activities and interests outside their narrow areas of inquiry. My own area of interest is how individual scientists can engage with school audiences as part of a program that emphasizes the cultural and ethical assumptions of schools students when they conjure up images of biology. This program intends to replace the one-sided facts-based method of communicating science that visiting speakers tend to use, ignoring context and youth worldviews. Further activities of the BSS involve communication training for practicing scientists in media and interview techniques. The combined work of our group intends to put public-eye scrutiny on scientists in our own "laboratory" conditions. In matters of public concern and science policy, the researchers need, themselves, be researched.

The BioSciences and Society (BSS) Group at Dublin City University, Ireland is an interdisciplinary research group in a unique position - we are social scientists who not only work alongside biotechnologists in the same research centre but also use these scientists as our subject of study. BSS is one of seven research programs of the National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology (NICB), a university-based institute specializing in cancer, diabetes, infectious diseases and developmental biology, funded by a state-run higher education initiative, the Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions and is developing a survey of embryonic stem cell research, arguing that it was a matter for public consultation particularly in light of the limited success of this technology (the NICB currently works on adult stem cells only). In 2002, the Irish Council for Bioethics was set up in response to an Irish government request to monitor ethical issues raised by developments in health and the biosciences.

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Funding Opportunities

NSF: Societal Dimensions
The next target date for applications to the NSF societial dimensions program is August 1, 2004. Investigators who are interested in studying ethical and value aspects in the interactions of engineering, science, technology and society and investigators examining policy, and engineering, science, technology and society should contact Sheila Slaughter to discuss their ideas; her e-mail is sslaught@nsf.gov Before they do, they should read the information on the program's home page, at www.nsf.gov/sbe/ses/sdest.

NSF: Career
This year's deadline for CAREER applications from investigators who qualify, and who wish to study ethics, values, or policy aspects of engineering, science, technology and society, is July 22, 2004. Here are some special information about the CAREER funding opportunity:
This is the third year of a three-year CAREER Program Solicitation (NSF 02-111; http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?n sf02111). A few need-to-know items are: The eligibility criteria. Applicants must:
- Hold a doctoral degree as of submission date
- Be untenured as of submission date
- Be employed in a tenure-track (or equivalent) position as of October 1 following submission
- Be employed as an assistant professor (or equivalent) as of October 1 following submission
- Have not competed more than 2 times previously in the CAREER program
- Have not previously received an NSF CAREER or PECASE award.

The minimum award size is $400,000 for 5 years, except in BIO, where the minimum award size is $500,000 for 5 years. The deadline dates for FY 2005 are:
- July 20, 2004 for BIO, CISE, and EHR
- July 21, 2004 for ENG
- July 22, 2004 for GEO, MPS, SBE and OPP.

Rachelle D. Hollander, Senior Science Advisor, Division of Social and Economic Sciences (SES), Societal Dimensions Program (SDEST), Ethics and Values Studies (EVS), Research on Science and Technology (RST) www.nsf.gov/sbe/ses/sdest NSF 4201 Wilson Blvd. Rm. 995 Arlington, VA 22230 703-292-7272, fax-9068; rholland@nsf.gov

NSF REU Program
The Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program supports active research participation by undergraduate students in any of the areas of research funded by the National Science Foundation. The new REU program solicitation has been published: http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf04584. The most significant change is the new deadline for REU Sites proposals which is Tuesday, August 17, 2004. For additional information please see the website at http://www.nsf.gov/home/crsspgrm/reu/start.htm or feel free to contact Michelle Costanzo (703-292-7323) or Bonney Sheahan (703-292-7291) with your questions.

Workshops
Engineering for Social Justice
Aim: To promote social justice through engineering

Key questions:
What is the current understanding of the relation between engineering and society?
What does engineering look like which contributes to social justice?
What do these engineers do and what does their organization look like?
How can we transform the education of engineers to bring us closer to this practice?

Outcome: Transformation of Engineering education and ultimately engineering practice

Background:
A group of researchers in Canada have been having conversations about the need to have well trained engineers to be allies in our aim towards social justice. We asked ourselves—Is it possible to define a good engineer? We decided that in order to do this we need theoretical underpinning as well as practical realities. Shared commitments are necessary. We need to look historically at what engineering has been and consider what it could be/should be/what is its function? We need to consider the notion of 'engineering' a society and what that implies. We asked the question—If there is to be a change, can we think about what the change will be towards?—as separate from the pathway to get there. And if we consider the pathway to get there—Will it be reform, revolution or will we construct alternatives? What unlearning might be needed?

Invitation:
You are invited to join us in this conversation and to aid this process we are hosting a workshop on November 3rd and 4th, 2004 in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. The day will be a series of discussions around topics which we would like you to help us identify around our central aim. We will provide space, facilitators and food. There will be a nominal fee of fifty dollars ($50 CAD) for the day. We can offer limited financial support for those without funding. After the workshop we will ask attendees if they would like to contribute to and collaborate with the development of an edited volume.

Contact Information
Martha de Bruyn
Integrated Learning Centre
Faculty of Applied Science
Queen's University
Beamish-Munro Hall, Rm 300A
Kingston, ON Canada K7L 3N6
Phone: 533.533.600 (74188)
Fax: 613.533.2721
debrynm@post.queensu.ca

Invitation to Discuss Creating a Science Shop Association of the Americas (SSAA)

Peter Levesque, Ottawa, Canada, has launched the initial consultations leading to the creation of a Science Shop Association of the Americas and is seeking input from interested parties from across Central America and the Caribbean, North America, and South America. He is also seeking support and ideas from colleagues around the world, currently active in Science Shops, Community-based Research Centers, and Participatory Action Research initiatives, on how best to create and support such an Association. This call to interested individuals, whether singular or in associations, is being made in order to develop an understanding of what the creation of the SSAA will mean to public science in the Western Hemisphere. Among the many initial supporters of this idea are Richard Sclove, founder of the Loka Institute and author of “Democracy and Technology” (Amherst, MA, USA), Caspar deBok, Head of the Biology Science Shop at the University of Utrecht, (Netherlands) and coordinator of Living Knowledge, and Bessa Whitmore, Professor of Social Work, Carleton University, Ottawa and co-founder of the Community-based Research Network of Ottawa (Canada). To add to this discussion, please send your comments to:

Peter Levesque
Science Shop Association of the Americas
Consultation
905 Balzac Lane,
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K4A 4E4
Phone 613-841-0858
Email peterlevesque@mac.com
Annual Meeting Section Sessions

SKAT Business Meeting (40 minutes) is scheduled on Sunday, 8/15/2004 from 3:30 p.m. - 4:10 p.m.

Scientific Expertise as a Social and Political Phenomena: Sunday, 8/15/2004 from 8:30 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.

Michael Lynch - Cornell University (Organizer) Harry Collins (University of Cardiff, Wales), Rob Evans (University of Cardiff, Wales) Abstract Title: Interactional Expertise: Where Philosophy and Sociology Meet

Hubert Dreyfus (University of California, Berkeley) Abstract Title: Distinguishing Expertise, Mastery, Innovation, and Creativity

Brian Wynne (Lancaster University, England) Abstract Title: To be announced

Institutional Politics of Science: Sunday, 8/15/2004 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

Scott A. Frickel (Tulane University) Organizer Kelly Moore (Brooklyn College) Organizer

Description: This session examines controversies waged beyond the laboratory door – conflicts generated by ongoing and complex changes in society’s dominant legal, economic, and political institutions. Institutions are important objects for sociological analysis in that they embody routinized “ways of going on” that, although often and largely taken-for-granted by most members of society, nevertheless continuously shape or channel social choices, constraining certain courses of action and enabling others. In science, institutions shape decisions and practices concerning what kinds of knowledge are made, who gains access to that knowledge, and what kinds of knowledge is left undone. Sensitive to the arguments and incorporating insights gained from cultural science studies, but with an explicit focus on the structural dimensions of power and inequality in knowledge politics, the papers in this session explain how institutional arrangements result in better outcomes for some groups than for others, and the ways in which social attributes such as race, gender, class, and profession interact with and condition those particular outcomes.

David J Hess (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) Abstract Title: Antiangiogenesis Research and the Dynamics of Scientific Fields:

Rachel Morello-Frosch (Brown University), Stephen M. Zavestoski (University of San Francisco), Phil Brown (Brown University), Brian Mayer (Brown University), Sabrina Brantley McCormick (Brown University), Rebecca Gasior Altman (Brown University) Abstract Title: Embodied Health Movements: Responses to a “Scientized” World

Steven G Epstein (University of California, San Diego) Abstract Title: Institutionalizing the New Politics of Difference in U.S. Biomedical Research

Kathleen Montgomery (University of California, Riverside) Abstract Title: Institutional Logics of Research Conduct: Public and Private Partners in Diffusing Norms of Scientific Integrity

Mutants/Hybrids/Monsters:
Nature/Science/Society: Sunday, 8/15/2004 from 12:30 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.

Thomas F. Gieryn (Indiana University) Organizer

Raul A. Necoechea (Georgia Institute of Technology) Abstract Title: Sick Families: Hereditary Cancer Registries and Medical Risk

Aaron L. Panofsky (New York University) Abstract Title: Behavior Genetics and the Problem of Race Differences: Controversy, Practice, and the Origins of a Field

Kelly Moore (Brooklyn College) Abstract Title: Denaturalizing Nature: Native Habitat Restoration in San Francisco

Christopher R. Henke (Colgate University) Abstract Title: Dreaming the Butterfly: Place in the Monarch Controversy

Patrick Eamonn Carroll (University of California Davis) Abstract Title: The Science/State Plexus: Mutant Likely, Hybrid Surely, Monster Hardy

Roundtables (one-hour)
Sunday, 8/15/2004 from 2:30 p.m. - 3:25 p.m.

Table 1. Epistemology and Knowledge
Richard Hull - University of Newcastle upon Tyne (Presider)

Xavier Hansen (Rutgers University) Abstract Title: Back to the Future: The Origins and Return of Sociology as the Scientific Study of Societal Development

Andrew Lakoff (UC San Diego) Abstract Title: The Value of Uncertain Knowledge: Envisioning the Future of Personalized Medicine

Laura Stark (Princeton University) Abstract Title: Methods as Morality: American Psychology and the Rise of Human Subjects Regulation

Richard Hull (University of Newcastle upon Tyne) Abstract Title: Categorizing Objects: Gillian Rose and STS

Table 2. Inquiries into Science
Anna Neumann - Teachers College, Columbia University (Presider)

William M. Epstein (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) Abstract Title: Confirmational Response Bias and the Quality of the Editorial Process in Social Work Journals

Anna Neumann (Teachers College, Columbia University) Abstract Title: Toward Images of University Professors’ Scholarly Learning: Contexts that Shape Intellectual Endeavor in Early Midcareer

Maren Elise Klawiter (Georgia Institute of Technology) Abstract Title: Risky Subjects: The Politics and Practices of FDA Knowledge

Table 3. Locating Bodies in Science
Jeffrey P. Bussolini - CSI-CUNY and EHESS, Paris (Presider)

Jeffrey P. Bussolini (CSI-CUNY and EHESS, Paris), Sylvain Reynal (ENSEA, Paris) Abstract Title: Bodies as Matter: the Conceptualization and Treatment of Bodies in Nuclear Physics

Steve R Garlick (City Univ of New York-Graduate Cntr) Abstract Title: Posthuman Sex: Biotechnology and Science Studies

Mary C. Ingram (University of California, Santa Barbara) Abstract Title: Parthenogenesis: The Dueling Fictions of Science and Literature Lisa A. Leitz - University of California, Santa Barbara (Discussant)

Continued on page 9
Employment Opportunities

Emergence Of Networks, Communities And Organization

Candidate profile:
The applicant will be expected to have written his/her doctoral dissertation on a related topic, connected with the economics of networks. A very good background in economics is required, especially in micro-economics. The applicant is also expected to have a good command of the literature (and to have contributed to it) and a perfect command of modeling, whatever the methods. The methodology has been deliberately left open. Among those envisaged are - without excluding any a priori simulation techniques for complex systems (with or without learning). The applicant will have proved his/her ability to integrate international research networks.

Duration: 1 year(s)
Laboratory BETA - University Louis Pasteur Strasbourg http://cournot.u-strasbg.fr/users/beta/beta.html
Description of the procedure:
Contact: Patrick Llerena 03 90 24 20 69
pllerena@cournot.u-strasbg.fr

Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology-Environmental Studies -- Whitman College -- Washington

Sociology: Sociology-Environmental Studies. The Department of Sociology at Whitman College invites applications for a one-year Visiting Assistant Professor position to begin August 2004 in Sociology-Environmental Studies.

Ph.D. or Ph.D. candidate with a specialization in environmental sociology is required, with evidence of or potential for excellence in undergraduate teaching. The successful candidate will teach four sociology classes, including Environmental Sociology and Population, and will participate in the Environmental Studies department in a team-taught introductory course and in the senior thesis program. Candidates should send a letter of application, vita, transcripts, teaching evaluations and three current letters of recommendation to: William Bogard, Chair, Sociology/Environmental Studies Search Committee, Department of Sociology, Maxey Hall, 345 Boyer Avenue, Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington 99362. Deadline: June 1, 2004. Applicants who would enrich the diversity of the campus community are strongly encouraged to apply. Further information about Whitman College is available at http://www.whitman.edu.

Liberal Studies, an interdisciplinary program at Grand Valley State University, will be hiring a full-time visiting professor for 04-05. The position will involve teaching 4 classes per semester, including Lib 100 Introduction to Liberal Education and Lib 314 Life Journey. A background of interdisciplinary teaching in the humanities preferred. Evidence of excellent teaching is essential. Liberal Studies offers a student-designed interdisciplinary major focused on a topic/theme/issue, and also offers a variety of interdisciplinary courses in the school's general education program. This is a one-year appointment, with possible renewal for up to three years. Ph.D. preferred, but MA's also encouraged to apply. Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution. Send vita to: Grand Valley State University Attention: Judy Whipps Liberal Studies 219 Lake Superior 1 Campus Drive Allendale, MI 49401 Or WhippsJ@gvsu.edu

George Mason University announces a vacancy in its prestigious Clarence J. Robinson professoriate. Robinson Professors are distinguished, innovative scholars, interested in fundamental questions in the arts and sciences, with a deep commitment to undergraduate teaching at various levels. The community of Robinson Professors plays a key role in interdisciplinary curricular planning as well as teaching and research. (For more information about the Robinson Professors go to http://www.gmu.edu/robinson ).

Possible areas for the open position are: New Media in the Humanities (digital humanities and public intellectual life), Technology/Science and Society, or Globalization and the Humanities (including literature). Candidates may however propose alternative interdisciplinary areas. Candidates should submit a letter of interest and a curriculum vitae. Review of applications will begin April 1, 2004 and continue until the position is filled. Applications or nominations in hard copy should be sent to

The Chair of the Robinson Professor Search Committee

Office of the Provost, MSN 3A2
George Mason University
4400 University Drive
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

In electronic format they should be sent to rbsearch@gmu.edu

Postdoctoral Opportunities

Postdoctoral Fellow The University of British Columbia

The InterPARES (International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems) Project invites applications for a Postdoctoral Fellow position.

The Project is an international collaboration, which draws on knowledge from a wide range of disciplines and on the expertise of private and public organizations and academic institutions from countries around the world. For more information, please go to http://www.interpares.org.

Candidates for this position must have a doctorate in archival science or any other discipline related to the research. Due to the highly interdisciplinary nature of the project, the successful candidate will be expected to demonstrate an aptitude for working across different disciplines and cultural traditions.

The appointment is for one year, starting August 1, 2004, with the possibility of renewal until the end of the project, which is scheduled for December 31, 2006, pending confirmation of funding by our granting agency, the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) in December, 2004.

The successful candidate will work under the supervision of the Project Director and will be expected to conduct research in one or more of the following areas: reliability and authenticity requirements for electronic records; creation and maintenance of digital records in the course of artistic (e.g., visual and performing arts), scientific, or e-government endeavors; appraisal, preservation, description and accessibility of records generated in dynamic, experiential and interactive systems; policies relating to their creation, maintenance and preservation; or any other area of inquiry covered by the Project. For information on the MAS program, please go to http://www.sla.is.ubc.ca.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and responsibilities. Applicants should send 1) a letter indicating their research interests and identifying specific
Employment Opportunities Cont.

contribute to one or more of the research areas identified above; 2) a current c.v. and 3) three letters of reference. The application should be addressed to Dr. Luciana Duranti, Project Director, InterPARES Project, School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies, The University of British Columbia, 301-6190 Agronomy Road, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6T 1Z3. It can be sent by e-mail to luciana@interchange.ubc.ca or by fax at (604) 822-6006.

PhD Position opening up at Amsterdam School for Social science Research To work with Prof. Maarten Hajer

Title of research proposal (NL and UK) NL: Food for Thought: A Comparative Study of Administrative Innovations in Food Safety Regulation in Western Europe after the BSE Crisis

Abstract The research project will investigate the institutional response to the BSE crisis in 1995-96 (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or Mad Cow Disease). More in particular it will examine the relationship between the variation in regulatory responses and operational definitions of legitimacy in terms of the institutionalization of 'trust' in the new arrangements. The project will focus on four 'regulatory nodes' in Western Europe: Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the European Commission.

The project treats the food crisis as a paradigmatic case for a high modern society in which the centrality of trust is underscored but the conditions under which it is produced change. The project will employ an analytical dramaturgical approach to the study of institutional practice that provides a new method to analyzing and assessing the dynamic environment in which trust and other institutional outcomes are produced. By portraying institutional processes as sequences of staged performances of conflict and conflict-resolution, we open these practices to analysis. It becomes possible to examine, for example, how the design of the institutional setting affects what is said, what can be said, and what can be said with influence. This approach provides a new framework in which to understand policy learning that offers direct insights into how the democratic quality of policy arrangements can be sustained and enhanced in responding to new problems.

More info: www.fm.g.uva.nl/assr or m.a.hajer@uva.nl

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE MELLON POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

The Center for Intellectual Property (CIP) at University of Maryland University College announces a two-year postdoctoral fellowship with a stipend. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the position is for a recent Ph.D. who is pursuing research on topics related to encryption, intellectual property, and dissemination and protection of digital information. The position will be directly involved with the Center's research project on digital rights management (DRM) systems, higher education, and intellectual property rights. Responsibilities include:

- Developing, testing, and analyzing research projects based on application expertise and interest; - Aiding in the development of a survey instrument, testing the instrument and disseminating the instrument; - Writing narrative summaries of the research results, and related tasks under the supervision of the research project directors; - Conducting background research; - Developing and implementing an evaluation plan and preparing progress reports as needed for the Mellon Foundation and UMUC's executive officers; - Studying, testing, and maintaining accurate data on DRM systems identified as relevant and/or best practice systems from research results obtained through national studies; - Designing and implementing training activities, both face-to-face and online in intellectual property and digital rights management; - Teaching one course per year, either face-to-face or online, and publishing in peer-reviewed publications related to the focus of the Center's research activities; and - Performing other job-related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS: Successful applicant will have a Ph.D. degree (Or be ABD) in computer science or a closely related field; will have excellent oral and written communication skills; have demonstrated experience in research and statistical analysis (SPSS preferred); and have experience in completing and publishing research results. Applicants must submit with application materials a three to five (3-5) page essay discussing their purpose in pursuing this postdoctoral fellowship and how their discipline expertise works symbiotically with the research conducted by the CIP postdoctoral researcher.

POSITION AVAILABLE: Immediately. This is a full time 2-year appointment.

SALARY: $42,000 Stipend

TO APPLY: Submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, names of three professional references, a copy of any significant publication, essay, along with salary history for last three positions to:

Candidate Search - Postdoctoral Researcher (1000481) Office of Distance Education and Lifelong Learning (ODELL) University of Maryland University College 3501 University Boulevard East Adephi, MD 20783 Or email all materials to: hrf@umuc.edu

2 PhD fellowships in philosophy of science / science studies

The recipients will be expected to work in a Swiss National Science Foundation research project on quality assessment and expertise in scientific research. Combining the philosophy of science with empirical methods from science studies, this project seeks to understand what defines excellence in scientific research. The main target is experimental biology. With its strong research base in the social sciences and humanities as well as in the life sciences, the University of Basel offers great opportunities for research and graduate studies.

The successful candidates will have a Master's degree (or equivalent) with credits either in philosophy of science or in sociology of science (or science studies), should be ready to engage in interdisciplinary discussion, and should enjoy working in a team. The research work requires an excellent command of English. Language skills in German or French would be an advantage, but are not strictly required.

The stipend starts at CHF 32,640 p.a. (approx. EUR 21,000), with two annual
Postdoctoral Positions cont.

increments of CHF 3,000. The project will begin on October 1st, 2004. The maximal duration is 4 years. Applications should include a CV, 2
addresses of persons who are willing to write letters of recommendation, and a short writing sample. Please send applications to
(applications by e-mail are welcome): Prof. Dr. Marcel Weber University of Basel Science Studies Missionsstrasse 21 4003 Basel
Switzerland

Research Fellowships/Doctoral Research Studentships - (Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship

Applications are invited for four Research Fellowships/Assistant to work within the Tanaka Business School. The research will
focus on the innovation process in a number of thematic areas, including project-based organisations, use of simulation and prototyping,
hospital design and healthcare systems, and sustainability. A Job description and Person Specification may be found at the following site
http://www.imperial.ac.uk/employment/research/j obdescriptions/01056ttana ka.htm and an
application form downloadable from
http://www.imperial.ac.uk/employment/academic form.htm In addition The Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Technology Management
Section at Imperial College London now has funding available for doctoral research students and we are inviting applications to the Tanaka
Business School MPhil/PhD Programme in the areas of innovation, technology and entrepreneurship. Further information regarding
PhD positions may be found at
http://www1.imperial.ac.uk/business/programme s/doctoral/doctoralstudents hips.html

Annual Meeting Sessions
Cont. Roundtable session

Table 4. Public Understanding of Science
John T. Lang - Rutgers University (Presider)

John Sonnett (University of Arizona)
Abstract Title: Framing Global Climate

Luo Shuang (University of Maryland-College Park)Abstract Title: Internet Use
and Confidence in Science

Wolfgang Walter (University of Rostock)Abstract Title: Experts' Discourses as Judicial Drama or Bureaucratic

Table 5. Technologies and Science
J. Elizabeth Jackson - University of Washington (Presider)

Alwyn Lim (State University of New York at Stony Brook) Abstract Title: Globalisation, State Formation, and the
Singaporean Experience of Technology

Tzung-wen Chen (Bourg-la-Reine, France) Abstract Title: Vaccine Innovation in an Age of Uncertainty: BCG Innovation in France

J. Elizabeth Jackson (University of Washington)
Abstract Title: Finding Risk: Why Aviation Safety is Becoming Harder to Improve

Table 6. Working with Scientists/The Work of Scientists
Grit Laudel - Australian National
University (Presider)

Grit Laudel (Australian National
University), Jochen Gläser (Australian National University)Abstract Title: "Native
Competence” in Qualitative Interviewing

Joseph C. Hermanowicz (University of
Georgia)Abstract Title: Scientists and
Self-Doubt Across Strata of Academic
Science

Grit Laudel (Australian National
University)Abstract Title: Is It Possible to
Promote Research Collaboration?

A post-doc position is open to contribute to a project assessing carbon management policies in Asia (incl. case studies in Japan). The
research goal of the project is to study sustainable carbon management policies combining Land Use, Land Use Change and
Forestry (LULUCF) activities and Biomass-based innovations. The research topic for the post-doc is to develop tools which support the
carbon management policies within and beyond the Kyoto Protocol. The work focuses especially on quantifying the greenhouse-gas mitigation
potential of carbon management policies and their associated socio-environmental impacts/co-benefits. The researcher will join multi-national,
multi-disciplinary scientists and contribute to an international research program (Global Carbon Project) for integrating biophysical and socio-economic modeling
tools and developing policy scenarios. Publications in peer reviewed journals are expected and encouraged.

Experience: Applicants should have professional experience (PhD or equivalent) in environmental natural/social science. He/she should be fluent in
English. Other desirable skills include the ability to work across research disciplines and advanced mathematical and computing
knowledge. Familiarity with data manipulation, meta-analysis, research design, and socio-economic models of climate change is appreciated.

Locations: National Institute for Environmental Studies, Climate Change Research Project
Duration: The position will be available for up to three years. Expected to start as soon as possible and before the end of
2004. Salary: 5-7 mil Japanese Yen. Application: Please, send your application by email, including details of skills, qualifications and work, achievements to
Ms. Yoshiki Fujita (fujita.yoshiko@nies.go.jp).

Contact:
Dr. Yoshiki Yamagata (yamagata@nies.go.jp), SSC of GCP Leader of Carbon Sink Assessment Team, Climate Change Research Project, National
Institute for Environmental Studies, Onogawa Tsukuba Ibaraki 305 JAPAN

Coordination: Family Debate in the
United States and Germany

Table 5. Technologies and Science
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Publishing and Conference Opportunities

**Publishing**

IEEE Technology and Society invites submissions in the broad areas of social and policy implications of electro-technology, engineering ethics, and history of electro-technology. Topics of particular interest to the editors during the coming year include social, ethical, and policy implications of: alternative energy resources and technology, biomedical engineering, homeland security, "macroethical" issues in engineering, nuclear weapons proliferation and verification, robotics technology transfer for sustainable development, and wireless communications. IEEE Technology and Society is a publication of the IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology and is included in the IEEE periodical package subscribed to by hundreds of research libraries worldwide. For more information including a sample copy see http://www.njcc.com/~techsoc/. All papers will be peer reviewed. Typical length is 5000 words including references. All submissions should be sent as email attachments in Word or RTF formats (no PDFs) to: Joseph Herkert, Editor IEEE Technology and Society, joe_herkert@ncsu.edu

**Critical Public Health - CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

Biobanks: Challenges for Ethics

The development of large-scale genetic databases (biobanks) in a number of countries poses significant challenges for established concepts of ethics. According to their proponents, biobanks have the potential to play a considerable role in the effort to advance health. It is argued that by collecting genetic information and linking it with medical and genealogical data, researchers will gain insight into the genetic influences on common, complex diseases such as cancer, diabetes, asthma, and schizophrenia. However, the storage of such information over a long period, combined with uncertainties about how exactly information will be used in research and how findings will be applied, has been the subject of some concerns. If you wish to discuss your proposal further, please contact Professor Alan Petersen, School of Sociology, Politics and Law, University of Plymouth (01752 233220, or email: a.petersen@plymouth.ac.uk). The final date for submissions is 30 September 2004. www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/09581596.html

Bioethics announces a special issue on 'Ethical Issues in Infectious Disease' in 2005, to be guest edited by Margaret P. Battin and Michael J. Selgelid. We invite submissions on all aspects of this general topic. Issues of particular interest include, but are not limited to:

- Drug distribution and resistance
- Social, political, and economic causes and consequences of infectious disease
- “The duty to treat”
- Distribution of medical and bioethics research resources
- History of ethical analysis of infectious disease control
- Panic, prejudice, and perceptions of pestilence
- Public health policy matters,

Submission deadline: 1 January 2005; by email (preferably) to the managing editor at biomanag@health.wits.ac.za.

Charles Lemert is editing a series on social policy for Rowman Littlefield. He is looking for a 200 (give or take a) page book on environmental justice and its more substantive expression, environmental racism.

Lemert is among the top 10 or so social theorists on the scene today. And according to Kai Erikson, a first rate editor. If you are interested in such a project please contact me at krollsmith@triad.rr.com.

Steve Kroll-Smith
Professor and Head
Department of Sociology
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Greensboro, NC 27402

**Conferences**

Workshop on Electronic Voting in Europe
European Science Foundation
Schloß Hofen, Lochau/Bregenz (Lake of Constance), Austria
7-9 July, 2004
Registration Deadline: open

Panel on 'Poverty and Health'
73rd Anglo-American Conference of Historians
London, UK
7-9 July, 2004
Please send a brief synopsis and CV to: Professor Virginia Berridge virginia.berridge@lshtm.ac.uk http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/history

Dr Martin Gorsky martin.gorsky@lshtm.ac.uk at the above address (Tel: 0207 927 2136)
Conference Opportunities Cont.

Fourth Carework Conference: Bridging
Carework Research, Advocacy, and Policy
The Carework Network
San Francisco, California, USA
13 August, 2004

8th Summer Symposium
International Society for the Philosophy of Chemistry
Hatfield College, University of Durham, UK
15-18 August, 2004
Submission Deadline: 1 May

ICOHTEC 2004
31st Symposium of the International Committee for the History of Technology:
(Re-)Designing Technological Landscapes
Bochum, Germany
17-21 August, 2004

16th European Conference on Artificial Intelligence
Campus of the Universidad Politénica de Valencia, Valencia, Spain
22-27 August, 2004

4S-EASST 2004
Joint annual conference of the Society for Social Studies of Science and the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology
Ecole des Mines, Paris, France
25-28 August, 2004

MISRC/CRITO Symposium on the Digital Divide
Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota
August 27-28, 2004
http://www.misrc.umn.edu/symposia/dd/

18th Century European Thought and the Nature-Culture Problem in Advanced Techno-Scientific Societies
An International Symposium
University of Helsinki, Finland
1-4 September, 2004

Theatres of Science: Crossovers and Confluences
An Interdisciplinary Conference
University of Glamorgan, Pontypridd, Wales, UK
8-11 September, 2004

Workshop Conference: Mediating

Biomedicine: Engaging, Resisting, Negotiating
Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM), University of Manchester, UK
10/11 September, 2004

ITHC 2004: To Err is System (2nd International Conference)
IT in Health Care: Socio-technical Approaches
Portland, Oregon (USA)
13/14 September, 2004

Localization and Globalization in Technology Design, Use and Transfer as a Subject of Engineering Education
7th IMAC Conference
University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany
13-15 September, 2004

eBRF 2004
Research Forum to Understand Business in Knowledge Society
Tampere University of Technology and University of Tampere
Tampere, Finland
20-22 September, 2004

SAFECOMP 2004
The 23rd International Conference on Computer Safety, Reliability and Security
Potsdam, Germany
21-24 September, 2004

The 4th World Congress of Science Journalists will hold its next meeting in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 4-8 October 2004. Information is at http://www.wcjs2004.com/, in both English and French. The conference goals are to enhance the story-telling skills journalists need to deal with the ever-increasing complexity of science; promote the role of science journalists within science, society and the media, encourage science journalists from around the world to exchange information, share experiences and best practices, equip science journalists with the strategies needed to gain support from their editors and producers and expose journalists to new and emerging science and technology. For more information, see http://www.wcjs2004.com/english/scholarships.htm.

SHOT 2004
Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology
Renaissance Amsterdam Hotel, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
7-10 October, 2004
Submission Deadline: CLOSED

SLS2004
The 18th annual conference of the Society for Literature and Science
Durham, North Carolina, USA
14-17 October, 2004

Science and Technology in the 20th Century: Cultures of Innovation in Germany and the United States
Conference at the German Historical Institute, Washington D.C. (USA)
15-16 October, 2004

The Nature of Mathematical Proof
A Meeting of The Royal Society, London, UK
18/19 October, 2004
Organized by Prof. Alan Bundy, Prof. Donald MacKenzie, Sir Michael Atiyah FRS and Prof. Angus Macintyre FRS.

Engineering Education in Sustainable Development
Technical University of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain
27-29 October, 2004
Submission Deadline: Feb 1

Science in Europe–Europe in Science: 1500-2000
Maastricht, The Netherlands
4-6 November, 2004
“The conference is jointly organized by Gewina (Dutch Society for the History of Science, Medicine, Mathematics and Technology) and the European Society for the History of Science.”

2nd International Conference on the History of Transport, Traffic and Mobility
International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic and Mobility (T2M)
University of Michigan, Dearborn, Michigan (USA)
4-7 November, 2004

American Society for Information Science and Technology
November 12-17, 2004
Providence, Rhode Island
“Managing and Enhancing Information: Cultures and Conflicts”
http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM04

American Anthropological Association
San Francisco Hilton and Towers, San Francisco, California, USA
10-14 November, 2004
Submission Deadline: July 8, 2004
SKAT Officers and Committees

Section officers

Chair
Michael E. Lynch
Professor, Department of Science & Technology Studies
Cornell University
302 Rockefeller Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853
607-255-7294 tel
607-255-6044 fax
mel27@cornell.edu

Chair-Elect
Jennifer Croissant
Associate Professor
Women's Studies
107 Communications
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0025
520-626-0079
jlc@u.arizona.edu

Past Chair
Joan H. Fujimura
Professor, Department of Sociology
Director, Robert and Jean Holtz Center for Research in Science and Technology Studies
Social Science 8218
1180 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706
608-265-2724 tel
608-265-5389 fax
fujimura@ssc.wisc.edu

Council Members
Susan Bell sbell@bowdoin.edu (04)
Kathryn Henderson hendrns@tamu.edu (04)
Laura Mamo Imamo@socy.umd.edu (05)
Stefan Timmermans
timmermans@binah.cc.brandeis.edu (05)
René Anspach ranspach@umich.edu (06)
Maren Klawiter

maren.klawiter@hts.gatech.edu (06)
Jennifer Fishman jf17@cwr.edu (06)
Secretary/Treasurer
Daniel Kleinman
dkleinman@facstaff.wisc.edu
Student Representative
Anita Chan anita1@MIT.EDU

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Membership: S. Zehr, T. Gieryn
Nominations: Trevor Pinch, Chair.
Publications: Andrea Hoplight Tapia
Awards:
Merton: Joan Fujimura, Chair.
Hacker-Mullins: Susan Bell

Newsletter

Please send announcements and news to either editor. Contribute electronically, by regular post, or fax. Deadlines are:

* Summer edition - May 15
* Fall/Winter Edition - October 15
* Spring edition - February 15

Andrea Hoplight Tapia
Assistant Professor of Information Sciences and Technology
(814) 865-1542
329C IST Building
The Pennsylvania State University
State College, PA 16803
atapia@ist.psu.edu

Todd Paddock
1508 Irving St.
Lincoln, NE 68521-1938
402-435-6655
twpaddock@earthlink.net

Conferences Cont.

Biblical Exegesis and the Emergence of Science in the Early Modern Era
Birkbeck College, University of London
27 November, 2004

Health Sciences Simulation
Wyndham New Orleans at Canal Place
Hotel, New Orleans, LA, USA
January 23-27, 2005
Draft papers due to Chair: Oct. 29
AndersonJ@soc.purdue.edu

Triple Helix 5
Capitalization of Knowledge: Cognitive, Economic, Social and Cultural Aspects
Turin-Milan, Italy
18-21 May, 2005
Submission Deadline: 15 Oct, 2004

IAMOT 2005
14th International Conference on the Management of Technology
Vienna, Austria
22-26 May, 2005

Perspectives on 20th-century Pharmaceuticals
Centre for Health, Medicine and Society and Business School
Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, England
14-16 July, 2005
Submission Deadline: 30 Sept, 2004

Francisco, California (USA)
17-21 November, 2004

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Todd Paddock
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