

ASA-SKAT

Science, Knowledge, and Technology

From the Section Chair

Michael Lynch, Cornell University

The ASA centennial meeting in Philadelphia (13-16 August 2005) is rapidly approaching, and once again all SKAT events (sessions, roundtables, business meeting, and reception) will occur on one day – Monday, August 15. We had very good attendance in our sessions last year, and I expect that we'll again have a good turnout. As usual, the business meeting will occur immediately following the roundtables. Note that the meeting is more than a matter of 'business', because we use the occasion to introduce our new section officers and to announce the winners of the Robert K. Merton Professional Award (book prize), and the Sally Hacker/Nicholas Mullins prize for best student paper. The reception will be held after the business meeting. For the past two meetings we have held our reception outside of the conference hotels, and we will try to do this again this year. We are currently exploring Philadelphia restaurants near the conference hotels, and when we have found the right place I will send announcements on the listserv.

In the past few years, membership in the SKAT Section has hovered near 400. At last count, our 2005 membership had dropped below that number. Based on past experience, I expect the number to go up during the meetings, as many people join the ASA at that time, but it will take some effort to get it above 400. The ASA allocates budget and sessions based on section membership, and 400 is one of the cut-off points, so it is important for us to stay above that number when the heads are counted shortly after the meetings. Consequently, I hope that those of you who will be attending the meetings will

encourage colleagues and students who are not current members to sign up for the section. Joining the ASA is an expensive proposition, but joining sections costs only a few dollars more. If you know of any colleagues who are active in other sections, especially some of the newer and smaller sections, you might offer a swap -- to join their section in exchange for their joining ours.

After the meetings, we will have a new section Chair – Jennifer Croissant, who has been our Chair-Elect for the past two years. When the ASA election results are tallied, we'll have a new Chair-Elect, two new council members (3-year term), one student member (1-year term), and a new Secretary/Treasurer. We are also bringing on board a new website manager – Ricky Leung, of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Ricky is beginning to update the site this summer, and we should have the website in good order by the time of the meetings. I also would like to thank Aneesh Aneesh for his excellent work with the website over the past few years. The URL of the site is: <http://www.asanet.org/sectionskat/>

One project I plan to complete before signing off as section chair develop a bit of history to be included on the section website. There are two major reasons for wanting to do this: one is to inform members and anyone else who visits the site about the history of the section, and the other is to provide future section officers with quick access to information about the section – for example, lists of past chairs, council members, and award winners. Such lists would come in handy, for example, when the Nominations Committee tries to identify potential candidates who have not previously served on the Council. I will

Special Interest Articles:

- From the Chair
- Spotlight: Programs
University of Wisconsin
Madison and Georgia Tech
- Spotlight: Technologies
Municipal Wi-Fi
- The inside scoop on COOL
sessions at the upcoming
ASA meetings in August.

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be putting out calls for information on the section listserv during the summer, but in the meantime, I would greatly appreciate it if any of you who know valuable bits of history would send them to me <mel27@cornell.edu>. Here are some things I'd especially appreciate: background on the formation of the section; names of past chairs and dates they served; names of past council members and dates served; and names and dates of past award winners (both Merton and Hacker/Mullins award winners). So if you have served on the council, won an award, or know something that might be of interest, please send the information to me. I also would like to include brief biographies of Robert K. Merton, Sally Hacker, and Nicholas Mullins on the website. I'm quite sure that some of our Hacker/Mullins award winners have had little or no idea of whom their awards were named after. Finding information about Merton presents no problem, of course, but I would be very grateful to anyone who would like to forward information to me (or, better, compose a brief biography) on any of these three notable figures. Council member Maren Klawiter <maren.klawiter@hts.gatech.edu> and I will be compiling this information, and we are also taking suggestions for a new section name, so that we will no longer be saddled with SKAT as our acronym!

Hacker/Mullins Prize Nomination Deadline Extended!



Please nominate and submit outstanding student papers for the Sally Hacker/Nicholas Mullins Prize. Send nominations and/or electronic copies of papers to Renee Anspach ranspach@umich.edu

Spotlight on Programs University of Wisconsin-Madison Science and Technology Studies

By Joan Fujimura

In 2001, the University of Wisconsin-Madison launched an exciting new initiative in Science and Technology Studies (STS), continuing the university's long-standing traditions of scholarly excellence in sociology, history, and philosophy of science, technology, and medicine. Endowed by a gift from the Holtz family and by a unique partnership between the university and the State of Wisconsin to create new, interdisciplinary faculty positions in areas of critical importance for the future of the state and the world, STS at UW-Madison embodies the growing recognition that universities must take the lead in fostering public engagement and deliberation of science and technology in the age of the internet, biotechnology, and global change.

Toward that effort, we have been building the Robert F. and Jean E Holtz Center for Research on Science and Technology and Program in Science and Technology Studies. The first is a research center that promotes collaborative research across disciplinary boundaries. The second offers a Ph.D. Minor Program and undergraduate courses. The Center also hosts lectures, colloquia, and workshops open to the university community and the public. Together, they will help firmly establish the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a world leader in STS research and education.

By focusing scholarly attention on science and technology as human enterprises, situated in wider historical, social, and political contexts, STS provides insights into the relationship between science and technology and such basic categories of social thought as race and gender, poverty and development, trust and credibility, participation and democracy, health and pathology, risk and uncertainty, and globalization and environment. In so doing, STS seeks to inform both scholarship and public discussion on issues such as genetic

technologies and projects, cloning and stem cell research, nanotechnology, climate change, disease ecologies, engineering failures, nanotechnology, nuclear proliferation, and the internet.

Our long-term goal is to integrate humanistic and social science perspectives on science and technology across the university curriculum, including the liberal arts, the natural sciences, medicine, and engineering. STS prepares students to be more active and effective participants in public debates about science and technology and trains scientists, engineers, and medical professionals to think critically about the social, political, and ethical dimensions of their work.

For example, the Center held a Public Symposium on "Race, Genetics and Disease: Questions of Evidence, Questions of Consequence" on April 16-17, 2004, on the Madison campus. The symposium brought together thirteen national and international researchers in the social and natural sciences and the humanities with the UW faculty, students, and members of the general public to discuss the potential consequences of new emerging genetic definitions on issues surround race, ethnicity, and populations in contemporary society.

Our Ph.D. minor program benefits from the combination of strong departmental /disciplinary training and the interdisciplinary STS Program. The opportunities for rigorous disciplinary and interdisciplinary work are complemented at Madison by widespread faculty interest in comparative and transnational approaches and a common emphasis on science and technology practice and policy. This does not imply that we are members of a cohesive research school – but it does suggest that many of us share some of these interests and approaches. The areas of research and teaching where we have STS faculty expertise are: Biomedical Sciences, Information Technologies, Social Sciences (as objects of study), Technology Studies, Environmental Studies, Agriculture and Society, and Epistemologies.

Book Notes

Mary C. Ingram,
Book Review Editor
Institute for Advanced Studies on
Science, Technology, and Society
Graz, Austria

Eden, Lynn. 2004. *Whole World on Fire: Organizations, Knowledge, and Nuclear Weapons Destruction*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Lynn Eden's *Whole World on Fire: Organizations, Knowledge, and Nuclear Weapons Destruction* poses the question: Why did the U.S. government focus on developing predictions of nuclear devastation from blast (initial energy released by nuclear bomb) and not mass fire (the immediate and lingering fire resulting from nuclear detonation)? Given that estimating the destruction potential of mass fire is as predictable a process as estimating the fallout from a nuclear blast, Eden's research question is particularly compelling. Why, indeed, do policymakers and military decision-makers continue to ignore the evidence that mass fire may be predictable? To answer this question, Eden takes her readers through a socio-historical analysis of U.S. military history in the 20th century to understand how knowledge about nuclear weapons technologies was developed. Drawing on social scientific fields of organizations and institutions as well as science and technology studies, she develops a theoretical explanation for how the U.S. military came to produce knowledge about nuclear weapons.

One has only to remember World War II's haunting images of nuclear annihilation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki understand the stakes of Eden's research, though Eden also includes accounts of mass fires due to (non-atomic) incendiary weapons to cities such as Tokyo, Dresden, Hamburg, Stuttgart, and several others (p.28). In the first chapter, aptly titled "Complete Ruin," Eden vividly describes a moderate-scale nuclear attack. She carefully illustrates, second-by-second, what would happen if one nuclear weapon (her example is typical of many stockpiled by the U.S.) was detonated in the near vicinity of the

Pentagon, in Washington, D.C. In this chapter alone, as she describes, in harrowing detail, the resulting devastation from both blast and mass fire, she reinforces the stakes of her research. For instance, some parts of the Pentagon and other buildings in the Capital might withstand the impact of the blast; however, the resulting mass fire would incinerate everything for miles from the blast, and for short periods, the air would be superheated to temperatures greater than the sun's core. People who managed to survive the blast would not survive the consequences of the fire. Thus, mass fire, as Eden argues, must be taken into consideration when estimating the fallout from use of nuclear weapons.

Eden dispels other reasonable explanations for the continued resistance to consider the predictability of mass fire, including the two widely believed arguments that calculating blast damage is more reliable than calculating mass fire and that mass fire has too many variables, such as weather patterns, seasonal humidity, and time of day, to adequately predict damage. She does this first by citing highly credible scientists' work that offer the means to predict mass fire potentiality. Second, she offers her own argument of how scientific knowledge that privileges blast damage and ignores mass fire was produced over time. To do this, Eden takes a historical view of the problem-solving processes of scientists, policymakers, and U.S. military decision-makers regarding nuclear weapons technologies. Using her concept of organizational frames (how problems arise, get answered, and are shaped, by organizations), Eden situates these problem-solving practices as essentially social processes capable of being analyzed empirically. Thus, in the last century of U.S. military history, it has been blast damage predictability that has been privileged because blast damage itself can be seen and measured in ways that seem more tangible and precise than mass fire damage. As Eden shows in her first chapter, little more than ash remains from mass fire, and as such, is not something that can be easily explained or quantified using blast damage standards of measurement.

Eden makes clear contributions to the field of organizations and institutions. However, by combining this field with that of science and technology studies, she also makes important contributions there, too. Explaining the emergence, or this case, the disregard of scientific knowledge, is certainly within the purview of science and technology studies. Eden does this by demonstrating how scientific knowledge is shaped by long-term organizational change.

Eden employs a variety of methodological tools to analyze her case. She uses secondary historical and sociological studies, a plethora of documents, including formally classified information, nuclear physicists' research, U.S. government and military policies and communications, and interviews. At some points, she refers to a few of her interviewees as "co-narrators" as she tells her story. Eden's book is an excellent example of historical sociological research methods, and would thus be appropriate for methods classes.

Lynn Eden's *Whole World on Fire: Organizations, Knowledge, and Nuclear Weapons Destruction* won the 2004 Robert K. Merton Professional Award from the Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section of the ASA.

Related Titles

Beamish, Thomas. 2002. *Silent Spill: The Organization of an Industrial Crisis*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

Snook, Scott A. 2000. *Friendly Fire: The Accidental Shootdown of U.S. Black Hawks over Northern Iraq*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Van Loon, Joost. 2002. *Risk in a Technological Age*. London: Routledge.



SOCIOLOGY AND HISTORY AT GEORGIA TECH

August W. Giebelhaus Professor of History

Is it possible for social science disciplines to thrive at an institution where engineering curriculum and culture have historically predominated? Can bright young men and women successfully study sociology and history at a highly ranked but technological university? The answer to both is yes, even if the path to success has been somewhat non-traditional. Founded in 1885 and located in what is today downtown Atlanta, the Georgia Institute of Technology sought to foster economic development with technical education as part of its historic "New South" mission. As a result, Georgia Tech established its early reputation as an excellent state-supported engineering school. Although there have been many outstanding faculty in the social sciences and the humanities for a long time, it has only been in recent years that these programs have become more prominent.

There were no social science units defined by discipline before 1990, and both sociology and history existed within a multidisciplinary School of Social Sciences, a structure that could be found in other, usually private, engineering schools such as MIT and RPI. A campus-wide reorganization in 1990 made possible the unit configurations and expanded social sciences degree programs that are presently in place. The School of History, Technology, and Society (HTS) became one of the units within the new Ivan Allen College, "the

Liberal Arts College of Georgia Tech." HTS is a medium-sized unit made up of eighteen full-time faculty members consisting of fourteen historians and four sociologists, one of whom, Willie Pearson, is the current chair. It offers a BS in History, Technology, and Society and MS and PhD degrees in the History and Sociology of Technology and Science. Within a span of only fifteen years it has developed steady-state numbers of 90-100 undergraduate majors and 10-12 graduate students annually. Additionally, HTS plays a role in providing popular enrichment courses that meet social sciences requirements for engineers, scientists, architects, and managers.

Georgia Tech had already developed a strong reputation in science and technology studies (STS) over the past thirty years and before the 1990 reorganization. Melvin Kranzberg's arrival in 1972 as a chaired professor of the history of technology and editor of the international journal *Technology and Culture* represented a significant marker of this trend. A number of nationally prominent sociologists and historians of science and/or technology assumed positions at Georgia Tech over the next three decades. More importantly, a number of outstanding social scientists in non-technology related fields joined the faculty as the non-engineering side of the Institute began to gather momentum. It was no coincidence that in the early 1970s Georgia Tech also began a change in status from that of a strong regional engineering school to being a nationally and internationally ranked technological university. U.S. News and World Report has ranked Tech consistently among the top ten public universities in the United States in recent years, with its historic core mission remaining strong. U.S. News in 2005 rated Tech's engineering college among the elite five in the United States, with eight of its eleven graduate programs in the top five. The caliber of student equally has remained impressive, with the average SAT scores of incoming freshman consistently ranking either first or second among all public universities in the United States.

HTS sociologists and historians have maintained an ongoing discussion over the nature of the School's curriculum. The graduate program has a broadly defined science and technology focus, but the undergraduate program more explicitly encourages students to select courses from a wide array of offerings. There is logic for STS studies at Georgia Tech, but HTS remains one of the few places on campus where students can seek a broader general education. HTS courses in the sociology of gender or Asian history, for example, are extremely popular among majors and non-majors alike. An undergraduate major may design his or her curriculum with an emphasis on either sociology or history, and the curriculum allows for a large number of free electives. All majors are required to take a small number of courses dealing with some aspect of technology and society, and, like all Georgia Tech students, they must complete two semesters of mathematics, including calculus, as well as a laboratory science and computer science. Although these requirements reflect the technical aspects of "the Georgia Tech experience," our faculty do not apologize for them, but extol the ways in which the HTS degree differs positively from some of the more traditional programs in sociology and history.

Our HTS graduates have excelled in graduate programs in history, sociology, law, business, and the health fields, as well as in the workplace where their combination of technical literacy, broad knowledge, and communication skills have made them an asset. Our graduate students have distinguished themselves with a high number of competitive fellowships and grants as well as employment placement with leading colleges, universities, and research institutions. Georgia Tech is not just for engineering anymore!

Municipal Wi-Fi Networks

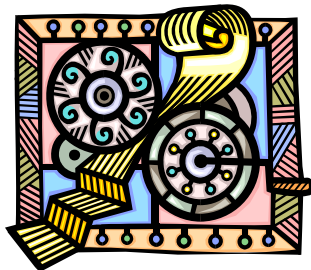
Edgar Maldonado, Julio Angel Ortiz and Ankur Tarnacha, The School of Information Sciences and Technology, The Pennsylvania State University

Wi-Fi broadband Internet access is mushrooming and being developed, used and deployed by and for municipalities throughout the United States and abroad (Rao & Mihir 2003). A Wi-Fi network is characterized by a set of base stations (also called access points) placed throughout the environment and connected to the traditional wired Local Area Networks (LANs). This technology allows nomadic users broadband access to the Internet if they are in the transmission range of an access point. The aim is to examine four basic models for municipal wireless networks. Due to the nature of the deployment, this generates complaints from both the telecommunication industry whose traditional role is to offer the Internet service and state policy makers (Lehr et al 2004). Consequently, we provide a brief description of States fighting the development of municipal Wi-Fi mostly through policy like Pennsylvania House Bill 80. It is important to highlight and henceforth explain that since the wireless service furnished by municipal entities could cause potential conflicts with the telecommunication sector and the destination of taxpayer dollars, local governments are actively looking for business models that allow the deployment of the infrastructure with unwanted effects. In general, the chosen ideal model ought to: (a) avoid the competition with the private sector, (b) lower the price of access to the end-user, (c) be sustainable, and (d) depend less on taxpayer dollars (Stone, 2005). There are three basically three business models: (1) a public-oriented model, (2) a private oriented model, and (3) a public-private partnership model. Each of these are explained in turn. The public-oriented model uses the local government as a managerial figure. The funding is obtained from taxpayer funds,

grants, donations or advertisements, and the network is built and managed by the city. This model is most oriented to offer "hot zones" than to provide a universally available network. The disadvantages of this model are that the origin of the funds does not guarantee the sustainability, and the local government is competing directly with other internet providers using taxpayer resources. The private-oriented model promotes the private sector as a principal protagonist. In this model, the local government would allow the deployment of the infrastructure by a private sector provider, who would charge to the city and subscribers a connection fee. Therefore, the city would not need to use taxpayer funding or city employees in the development of the infrastructure. Among the disadvantages of this model are that does not guarantee an affordable service and the ROI (return of investment) model will prevent the construction of a universal wireless network. The public-private partnership model proposes an approach between the two last options. The public sector would create a contract with private sector providers; where the public sector agrees to give the right to install radios in city spots and the providers agree to subsidize the service in underprivileged areas. Although this model seems the most appropriate one due to both sides having different interests (profits vs. service underrepresented), the negotiation between the parts represents the principal issue in the adoption of this model. There is a fourth model proposed by Stone named the Cooperative Wholesale Model (Stone, 2005). In this model the city builds its own wireless infrastructure and then sells part of the capacity of the network to private providers. As a result, the money would be invested by local governments in order to provide access to underrepresented sectors of the city. States across the United States, backed by Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILEC) and Cable providers, have been fighting against the deployment of wireless broadband networks by municipalities. As an example,

Pennsylvania HB 30 in its early versions precluded communities from developing their own wireless broadband networks. This bill has been modified in the midst of protests. Although, the final version of the bill allows existing municipal systems to continue to operate, but provides local governments and authorities a one-year window to develop these networks. Municipalities that are providing telecommunications service through a municipally owned or created network as of January 1, 2006 can continue to offer and provide the services "to the extent and scope" that these services were provided before that date. After that window closes, municipalities must offer the incumbent telephone company the right of first refusal to provide the proposed service. The municipality can only proceed with its proposed network if the ILEC waives its right of first refusal under this act. The passage of these legislations has been severely criticized by community broadband activists and journalists on grounds of - reducing availability of high-speed internet to cities and towns; hurting rural areas that lack high-speed internet; hurting the competitiveness of urban areas; and reducing local control over necessary infrastructure, even where the local taxpayers want to pay for it. The opponents of these legislations also quote the lobbying efforts of major telecom and cable firms behind these legislations. They claim "it is a brazen campaign to thwart competition, deny local choice, and leave the underserved on the wrong side of the digital divide in the name of profit-maximization." The supporters of the policies and legislations on the other hand highlight the need for competition in providing cheap services. More importantly, the states want to clarify the role of state utilities commission in local competition and avoid their entry into a market. Their entry they believe can alter the competitive landscape and reduce the quality and range of services that can be provided.

**THE INSIDE SCOOP:
SESSIONS OF INTEREST
ASA MEETINGS
PHILADELPHIA 2005**



Sociology of Science Regular

Sessions: Session 1

Organizer: Joan H. Fujimura
Convenor: Maren Klawiter, Georgia Institute of Technology, Discussant: Kelly Moore, Brooklyn College, City University of New York and Adele Clarke, University of California, San Francisco

Negotiating the Ethics of Deception: Methods, Morality, and Human Subjects in American Psychology, 1966-1973. Laura Stark: Princeton

Bucolic and Mechnic Epistemologies in Nuclear Sciences: The Laboratory Lives of Lawrence and Oppenheimer. Gregoire Mallard: Princeton

The Politics of Rediscovery in the History of Science: Tacit Knowledge of Concrete before its Discovery. Chandra Mukerji: UC Davis

NHICs, Cuts and Task Forces: Developing Standardized Tools for population health in Canada. Beth Jackson: York University, Toronto.

Sociology of Science Regular

Sessions: Session 2

Organizer: Joan H. Fujimura
Convenor: Kelly Moore
Discussant: Joan Fujimura
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Technologies of Translation: Genetically Modified Mice, Relational Databases, and the Molecularization of Toxicology. Sara Shostak

Cell Sociology: Fetal Cells from instruments to actors. Aryn Martin, Cornell STS

Racialized Bio-Medicine, Generated Difference: The Possibility of Racial Differentials in the Efficacy of AIDS VAX. Kevin Moseby, UC San Diego

The Expression of Biological Concepts of Race. Hannah Bruechner, Ann Morning, Alondra Nelson: Yale and NY University

Thematic Session

"Race and Ethnicity: Complex and Competing Frames of Population Variation"

This session presents analyses of competing perspectives on race and ethnicity. Recent studies by physical anthropologists and genetic linkage analysts have argued that there is new genetic evidence for arguing that race is a set of biological categories. Much of this research examines "racial" variation in predisposition towards particular diseases. Interestingly, most population geneticists argue against this claim. This session will bring together scholars who contest this claim on the basis of epidemiological evidence, population genetic evidence, and ethnographic study of the laboratories producing this claim. The speakers include:

Duana Fullwiley, Member, School of Social Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ
Jay Kauffman, Department of Epidemiology, UNC School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC
Jonathan Marks, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UNC-Charlotte, Charlotte, NC
Discussant: Troy Duster, President of ASA and Department of Sociology, New York University

Organizers: Joan Fujimura University of Wisconsin-Madison and Troy Duster (New York University)

**Thematic Session
Sociology of the Future**

This session will present a new field of study that fits under the rubric of "the sociology of the future." The field includes theoretical frames and empirical investigations of current enterprises that are making our futures. They focus especially on scientific and technological efforts that will have effects in the long term, but that are often taken for granted as "inevitable" and "unstoppable" in the present. Instead, this set of scholars use sociological imagination to examine how future expectations are being cast and framed by today's technologists. Speakers include:

Arie Rip, Centre for Studies of Science, Technology, and Society, University of Twente, The Netherlands, and Nik Brown, Science & Technology Studies Unit, Department of Sociology, University of York, Barbara Adam Department of Sociology, Cardiff University, Joan H. Fujimura Department of Sociology and STS Program, University of Wisconsin, Madison

"Hansel's Pebbles: Theory as Wayfinding in Information and Communication Technology Research"

Section sponsor: Section on Communication and Information Technology, Organizer: Christena Nippert-Eng, Illinois Institute of Technology, Discussant: Mary Chayko, College of St. Elizabeth

Homophily and Quality of Online and Offline Social Relationships among Adolescents Gustavo Mesch, University of Haifa

A Theory of Relational Signals in Online Groups Uwe Matzat, Eindhoven University of Technology

The Constitution of Mutual Knowledge on the Internet: A Phenomenological Approach Shanyang Zhao, Temple University and Jieming Chen, Texas

A&M University at Kingsville

The online layer: How text rubricates and ruins social interactions Daniel Menchik, University of Chicago and Xiaoli Tian, University of Chicago

Regular Session

Sociology of Technology: Dynamics of Design and Use

Session Organizer: Nina Wakeford, University of Surrey
Chair and Discussant: Andrea H. Tapia, Penn State University

Christena Nippert Eng, Illinois Institute of Technology, et al *Attention Management in a World of Pervasive ICTs*

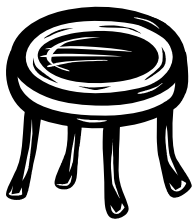
Hugh Mackay, Open University, UK *Design and Culture :the Symbolic Shaping of Apple Computers*

Ari Goelman, MIT *What's Space Got To Do With It? Information, Physician Autonomy and Space*

Author Meets Critic

Eden, Lynn. 2004. *Whole World on Fire: Organizations, Knowledge, and Nuclear Weapons Destruction*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
Session Organizer: Joan H. Fujimura

SCIENCE, KNOWLEDGE, AND TECHNOLOGY ROUNDTABLES



Organizer: Mary C. Ingram, Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology, and Society, Graz, Austria.

Technologies and Users

Employee Resistance to Enterprise Resource Planning Technologies, Deborah Vaughan, University of Washington.

Student Performance Enhancement in the Pharmaceutical Era: Exploring the Recreational Use of Ritalin/Adderall,

Meika Loe, Colgate University.

Cultures of Medicine: Perceptions of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technology in Japan and the United States, Kelly Joyce, College of William & Mary.

Knowledge Production

Property, Presence, and Practice: Preliminary Research on IT and Instruction in Higher Education Settings, Jennifer Croissant, University of Arizona.

Technology Transfer of Chinese Universities: Forms and Implications, Wei Hong, University of Illinois at Chicago.

The Epistemology of Esoteric Knowledge, Martin Laubach, Marshall University.

Science, Media, and Fiction: Tracking Knowledge Production, Mary C. Ingram, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Qualitative Research on Science Organizations

Weather Forecasting in the IFPS Era; Paradigm Shifts, Carpet Bombings and Knobology, Phaedra Daipha, University of Chicago.

"Night of the Living Geek": Gender, Technology, and Work in an Activist Setting, Christina Dunbar-Hester, Cornell University.

An Ethnography of the Socio-Cultural Construction of the Kabbalah as Science, Mysticism, Philosophy, and/or Another System of Wisdom, J. Gurdin, To Love and to Work: An Agency for Change; Michael Laitman, World Kabbalah Institute.

Contested Environmental Hazards in Corporate Policymaking and Public Disputes, Elaine Draper, California State University, Los Angeles.

Organizations

Engineering the Iron Cage: Technology in Organizations Even Museums, Nicholas Rowland, Indiana University; Fabio Rojas, Indiana University.

Social Organization of Work in Biomedical Research Labs: Socio-Historical Dynamics and the Influence of Research Funding, Annalisa Saloni, McGill University.

The Moral Order of Cyberspace, John Godard, California State University, Northridge.

Global and Local Determinants of Entrepreneurial Growth in India: Evidence from the Biotechnology Industry, 1980-present, Deepa George, Duke University.

Science and its Disciplines

Academic Productivity, Coordinated Problem and Cultural Conflict in the scientific Collaboration Community, Chin-Chang Ho, Yuan-Ze University; Shu-Fen Tseng, Yuan-Ze University; Hsin-i Huang, Yuan-Ze University.

Invitation to Astrosociology: Why the Sociologist-Space Enthusiast Should Consider It, Jim Pass, Long Beach City College.

Social Networks, Social Capital and Success on R&D Projects, Polly Rizova, Boston University.

Solar Sociology: A Research Agenda for the Renewable Energy Transition, Richard Hutchinson, Louisiana Tech University.

Science and Disciplines II

University Agricultural Biotechnology Research in the Context of Academic Capitalism, Leland Glenna, Washington State University, Rick Welsh, Clarkson University, William Lacy, University of California, Davis, Dina Biscotti, University of California, Davis.

Industry Collaboration and the Discipline of Academic Science: The Case of Arabidopsis Research, 1974-2003, James Evans, University of Chicago.

From Resources into Scientific Results: Comparative Analysis of Resource-related Results in Seven Disciplines, Osmo Kivinen, University of Turku, Juha Hedman, University of Turku, Paivi Kaipainen, University of Turku.

Science and Knowledge Production II

Households Real and Conceptual: Population Enumeration in Japan since 1870, Jennifer Winther, UCLA.

Forbidden Knowledge: Mechanisms of Social Control in Science, Joanna Kempner, The University of Michigan, Jon Merz, University of Pennsylvania, Clifford Perlis, Brown University Medical School.

The Social Construction of GM Safety Scientists' Research: Narratives and Boundaries, Peter Robbins, The Open University.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES ROUNDTABLES

Organizer: Gina Neff

Department of Communication
University of California, San Diego

News and the Net

Anne Holohan University of Trento,
Presider

Privacy and Technology: Newspaper coverage from 1985 to 2003
Christena Nippert-Eng, Illinois Institute of Technology; Meghan Carlock, Chicago-Kent College of Law; Nicholas Nimchuk, IIT; Jay Melican, Microsoft; Nalini Kotamraju, University of California-Berkeley; James Witte, Clemson University

Blogging for Votes: An Examination of the Interaction Between Weblogs and the Electoral Process Remy Cross, University of California, Irvine

Public Service and the Transformations of the Journalistic Field: Local Reporting in US News Media 1890-2000. Eric Klinenberg, New York University; Monika Krause, New York University

Social Networks and Technological Networks

Ari Goelman Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Presider

Visualizing the Structural Signature of Social Roles Howard Welser,

University of Washington; Danyel Fisher, University of California; Eric Gleave, University of Washington; Marc Smith, Microsoft Research

Network Size & Media Selection - Findings from the Pew Social Ties Survey Jeffrey Boase, University of Toronto

Personal Information Management and Personal Network Structure. Bernard Hogan, University of Toronto

Social Problems, Inequality, and Technology

Markus Schulz, New York University, Presider, James Witte, Clemson University, Discussant

Computer Anxiety and Reproduction of Inequality Zeynep Tufekci, University of Maryland

Domesticating the Internet: Household Internet Use and the Domestic Division of Labour Tracy Kennedy, University of Toronto

Longitudinal Effects of Internet Uses on Depression: A Social Resources Approach Katherine Bessiere, Carnegie Mellon; Robert Kraut, ; Sara Kiesler, Carnegie Mellon

Sociological Technology: Research, Teaching and Knowledge Production

Gustavo Mesch, University of Haifa, Presider

A Century of Sociological Computing: Some Highlights David McFarland, UCLA

Automating the Assessment of Sociological Reasoning in Essays Edward Brent, U. of Missouri

Issues in Internet Research Ethics for Sociologists. John Kennedy, Indiana University

Technology and the Organization of Knowledge Work

Siobhan O'Mahony, Harvard Business School, Presider

Practices, Processes, and Systems Design: Reformulating ERP system Architecture, Gary David, Bentley College

Scientific Collaboration Community: Organizational Citizenship Behavior, Computer-Mediated Communication and Productivity Shu-Fen Tseng, Yuan-Ze University; Hsin-i Huang, Yuan-Ze University

The Influence of Information Technology in the Structure of Health Care Organizations Ya-chien Wang, Michigan State University

Youth and Technology Use

Salvador Rivas, University of Wisconsin, Presider

Internet Access and Use among High School Students in Barbados, Michele Ollivier, University of Ottawa; Ann Denis, ; Eudine Barribeau, University of the West Indies, Barbados; Anthony Layne, University of the West Indies

Music, Mavens and Technology Steven Tepper, Vanderbilt University; David Touve, Vanderbilt; Eszter Hargittai, Northwestern University

The Social Construction of Internet Use among Parents and Teachers and Its Relation to Teenagers' Digital Literacy Esther Brainin, Ruppin Academic Center; Shirly Bar-Lev, Ruppin Academic Center

Using Symbolic Interactionism to Delineate the Process Through Which Internet Usage May Impact Well-Being Among College Students Shameeka Bowman, Shelia Cotten, University of Maryland-Baltimore Co.

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of Health Care Organization and Policy, University of Alabama at Birmingham, The successful candidate will hold a Ph.D. or Dr.P.H in a public health or health care management related area. The candidate should have research interests in public health systems, community health or health policy. Applicants should send a letter of interest, curriculum vita, and the names of references. CONTACT: Prof. Andrew C. Rucks, Department of Health Care Organization, University of Alabama-Birmingham, 1530 3rd Avenue South, Blvd., RPHB 330, Birmingham, AL 35294-0022 (e-mail: arucks@uab.edu).

Hixon-Riggs Visiting Professor in Science, Technology, and Society at Harvey Mudd College, We seek a scholar at any rank who has a demonstrated interest in the relationship of science and technology to issues of gender and/or ethnicity. We also invite inquiries from scholars with other emphases in STS who might be interested in visiting in the future. The Hixon-Riggs Visiting Professor will teach in her/his special area of expertise, play a mentorship role in the college's Hixon Forum for Responsive Technology, give occasional public lectures or presentations, and may organize a conference or program on a topic of current interest. The appointment may be either for a semester or for a full academic year, and its terms are negotiable. The Professorship resides in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. The Hixon Forum website is at <http://www.hixon.hmc.edu/>.

Endowed Professorship at the German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer, Germany. The position is in Science Organization, Higher

Education and Research Management. Please see the text at <http://www.dhv-speyer.de/VERW/stellen.htm>, Application deadline: 15 June 2005

University Of Oxford Professorship Of The History Of Science, An outstanding historian of science of international standing is sought to fill this important chair, tenable from 1 October 2006. Applications are welcome from scholars working in any area or period of the History of Science, excluding the ancient world and the history of medicine. The professor will have a broad vision of the scope of the history of science, and will be an integral member of the History Faculty, sharing responsibility for the development and delivery of the Faculty's strategies for teaching and research. He or she will have a particular responsibility for graduate studies in the history of science. A non-stipendiary fellowship at Linacre College is attached to the professorship. Further particulars, including details of how to apply, are available from <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/fp/> or from the Registrar, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD (tel. Oxford 01865 270200). The closing date is Monday, 20 June 2005.

CONFERENCES

Risk and Regulation 2005 Fourth Annual Research Student Conference 15 - 16 September 2005

Deadline: June 25 2005, CARR is an interdisciplinary group of social scientists based at LSE involved in research in organizational, political and legal aspects of risk and regulation. We are organizing a Fourth Conference for research students whose intended or current research focuses on a topic related to CARR's agenda. We would welcome both expressions of interest in attending the conference and proposals for papers to be considered for presentation. Apply online at: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CARR/events/riskAndRegulationResearchStudentConference.htm> or send your title and a 200-word abstract of a paper to regulation@lse.ac.uk.

Who needs scientific instruments" 20-22 October 2005 Museum

Boerhaave Leiden, the Netherlands
Deadline: July 1, 2005 In October 2005 a three-day conference will be organized in Museum Boerhaave. The conference deals with instruments and their users. More detailed information can be found on www.museumboerhaave.nl/conference. The central topic can best be formulated as a question: who needs scientific instruments? We invite historians of science as well as historians of scientific instruments to give their views and elaborate on the users of scientific instruments. Each day there will be another theme. Proposal for a talk should be accompanied by the theme, a title and an abstract of 250-500 words. To enter a proposal please visit the website www.museumboerhaave.nl/conference.

International Conference On Cultural Attitudes Towards Technology And Communication

June 28 - July 1 2006 University of Tartu, Estonia, Deadlines: Full papers February, 13 2006; Short papers and Workshop submissions February 20, 2006. Conference theme: Neither Global Village nor Homogenizing Commodification: Diverse Cultural, Ethnic, Gender and Economic Environments. The biennial CATaC conference series continues to provide an international forum for the presentation and discussion of current research on how diverse cultural attitudes shape the implementation and use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). The conference series brings together scholars from around the globe who provide diverse perspectives, both in terms of the specific culture(s) they highlight in their presentations and discussions, and in terms of the discipline(s) through which they approach the conference theme. For more information see: <http://www.it.murdoch.edu.au/catac>

Sixth European Social Science History Conference (ESSHC).

Amsterdam, 22-25 March 2006
The ESSHC aims at bringing together scholars interested in explaining historical phenomena using the methods of the social sciences. Contact micavi@usc.es, www.iisg.nl/esshc/index.html

Conference on the Prospects of the European Research Area.

The German Institute of Public Administration. Speyer. October 19-21, 2005. More information, including the Call for Papers, is available at http://www.dhv-speyer.de/jansen/ERA_conference/index_e.html, Deadline for submitting a paper is 15 June 2005.

2nd International Conference on Communities & Technologies (C&T 2005) JUNE 13-16, Milano, Italy,

<http://www.cct2005.disco.unimib.it>

1st International Conference on e-Social Science,

University of Manchester, UK
http://www.ncess.ac.uk/conference_05.htm

11th International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction, JULY 22-27, Las Vegas, NV, USA

<http://www.hci-international.org/>

The 33rd Research Conference on Communication, Information and Internet Policy

George Mason University Law School, Arlington, Virginia, SEPTEMBER 23-25, <http://www.tprc.org/TPRC05/2005.htm>

International and Interdisciplinary Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers: IR 6.0

Internet Generations OCTOBER 5-9 Chicago, IL, USA <http://www.aoir.org/>
NOVEMBER 3-6

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Doing Surveillance Studies Edited by Kirstie Ball and Kevin Haggerty

Issue 3(4): Publication date: December 2005, Deadline: August 1st 2005, Surveillance and society Volume 3(4) will be focusing on the question of how we, as scholars, 'do' surveillance

studies. The field of surveillance studies is still in its infancy, but contributors from the range of social science, humanities, liberal arts and even some of the engineering sciences. Addressing methodological questions concerning the unit of analysis, appropriate epistemological approaches, and the overall validity of what we produce will determine the legitimacy and communicability of our work for the future. Kindly submit papers to Kirstie Ball (k.s.ball@open.ac.uk) by August 1st, following our Submission Guidelines. <http://www.surveillance-and-society.org/>

Rewiring "The Nation": The Place of Technology in American Studies An American Quarterly Special Issue

Edited by Carolyn de la Pena, University of California, Davis, and Siva Vaidhyanathan, New York University, Deadline: September 15, 2005, We invite submissions for a special issue of American Quarterly on Technology and American Culture to be published in September 2006. We challenge scholars working among an array of "technologies" and "Americas" to interrogate why we might study technology in a post-Eurocentric, post-national American Studies. We are particularly interested in projects that explore the place of "American" technologies in an increasingly globalized, multi-polar, "high-technology" world and those that illuminate the relationship between technological positivism and dynamics of imperialism and war. Essays should be no longer than 10,000 words, including notes. Please send any questions about the call for papers to american.quarterly@usc.edu. Information about American Quarterly and submission guidelines can be found on our web site: www.americanquarterly.org.

Social Science Computer Review Special Issue: Applying Critical Theory And Critical Social Methodologies To The Study Of

ICT's, Guest editors, Lynette Kvasny: Penn State University USA lkvasny@ist.psu.edu, Helen

Richardson: University of Salford UK H.Richardson@salford.ac.uk, Andrea Tapia: Penn State University USA atapia@ist.psu.edu
Submission of manuscripts – September 12th 2005, In this special issue we are focusing on the application of critical social theory to ICTs. Critical study of ICT's involves examining forces of oppression and domination within human organizations and is a radical alternative to more traditional functionalist and managerial approaches towards understanding ICT's. Applying critical theory and critical social methodologies to the study of ICT's means challenging taken-for-granted assumptions, exposing deep-seated structural contradictions within social systems, aims to transform alienating and restrictive social conditions, uncover repression, use critical social theory in a dialectical relation between theory and practice and contribute to emancipatory knowledge.

Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication Special Issue On The Social, Political, Economic And Cultural Dimensions Of Search Engines,

Guest Editor: Eszter Hargittai, Northwestern University
Abstracts due: June 1, 2005, Full papers due: Oct 1, 2005, Millions of people turn to search engines daily to find information about news, health concerns, products, government services, their new neighbors, natural disasters and a myriad of other topics. At the same time, recent trends suggest that the search engine market is shrinking, with fewer large players guiding users' online behavior than ever before. Despite the crucial role that search engines play in how people access information, little attention has been paid to the social, political, economic, and cultural dimensions of large-scale search engines. This special issue will explore the social implications of large-scale search engines on

the Web. It will bring together experts from the fields of communication, sociology, political science, economics, business, law, and computer and information sciences to consider what we know about people's search engine uses and what recent trends suggest for the types of content that will be most accessible to users in the future. Final submissions should be emailed to the special issue editor, Eszter Hargittai at searchengines06@webuse.org. <http://webuse.org/searchengines06/> <http://jcmc.indiana.edu/>

HACKTIVISM: American Behavioral Scientist, Paper due November 15th, 2005, To be considered, please send an abstract of no more than 150 words to Chris Agee at cagee@gc.cuny.edu by June 1st, 2005. Guest editors for this special issue are political scientist Chris Agee (Graduate Center/BMCC, City University of New York) and political sociologist Josh Klein (BMCC, City University of New York). In this special issue, we will examine these definitions and the role of hacktivism within rampant capitalist globalization. Where does hacktivism fit in the struggle between labor and capital, elites and masses, in both national and international contexts? Research and analysis could explore how communities of hacktivists impact social, political and economic institutions in conflict. To receive a copy of detailed article guidelines, please contact Chris Agee at cagee@gc.cuny.edu or call (212) 533-2140.

Request for Articles "Environmental Approaches in the Classroom," for an upcoming issue of Academic Exchange Quarterly. Essays on relevant pedagogy in all disciplines and interdisciplinary areas are welcome. For more information, click on the rapidintellect.com website and find the AEQ section. More detailed descriptions of all upcoming special focus issues, and information for submission, are available there. I will also be glad to

respond to any questions at waage@mail.etsu.edu. Fred Waage Professor, English, East Tennessee State University

New STS Weblog, <http://www.stsblog.org> is a space for members of the field to write very short articles for an audience that might include students and non-STSerS: the form is a multi-authored, edited blog. The editor, Sergio Sisonondo (sisonondo@post.queensu.ca), would welcome submissions, including comments on topics of current interest, commentary on news stories or cultural phenomena, or nicely packaged summaries of articles you've written that might be of wide interest. If you find the site useful, please link to it.

WORKSHOPS

Workshop for the History of Environment, Agriculture, Technology and Science University of Virginia, October 7-9, 2005. Deadline for submission of paper proposals is June 15th. The second annual WHEATS conference is sponsored by the Committee for the History of Environment and Technology (CHET), through the departments of Science, Technology, and Society (STS), and History. WHEATS is a collegial forum for graduate students to present historical research to their colleagues. Papers are pre-circulated among all conference participants so as to encourage constructive discussions. Each paper will be given a 45-minute discussion slot. Send proposals of 250 words to Dolly Jorgensen, dollyjorgensen@virginia.edu.

FELLOWSHIPS

John W. Kluge Center Fellowships for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences at the Library of Congress. Application Deadline: August 16, 2005 Contact: Robert Saladini, Kluge Fellowships, Office of Scholarly Programs, Library of

Congress, LJ 120, 101 Independence Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20540-4860 Phone: 202-707-3302 Fax: 202-707-3595 E-mail: scholarly@loc.gov Web: www.loc.gov/kluge

Abe Fellowship Program Offers Support for Research on United States and Japan

Deadline: September 1, 2005 The Social Science Research Council (<http://www.ssrc.org/>), the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (<http://www.cgp.org/>), and the American Council of Learned Societies (<http://www.acls.org/>) announce the annual Abe Fellowship Program competition. The Abe Fellowship is designed to encourage international multidisciplinary research on topics of pressing global concern. Applications are welcome from scholars and non-academic research professionals. Applicants are invited to submit proposals for research in the social sciences or the humanities relevant to any one or a combination of the following three themes: (1) global issues; (2) problems common to industrial and industrializing societies; and (3) issues that pertain to U.S.-Japan relations. Applications must be submitted online at the SSRC Web site. See the SSRC site for complete program information and application procedures. RFP Link: <http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/1894/ssrc>

Fellowships for U.S. and Canadian Scholars The Economic and Social Research Council (<http://www.esrc.ac.uk>) and the Social Science Research Council (<http://www.ssrc.org>) have announced fellowships for U.S. and Canadian scholars to visit and engage in collaborative activities with members of ESRC-supported projects in Britain, or for British scholars at ESRC-supported projects to visit collaborators in the U.S. or Canada, between July 2005 and September 2006. This fellowship is the second round of a pilot project designed to encourage communication and cooperation between social scientists in Great Britain and the United States and Canada. Approximately ten research fellowships of up to \$7,500 will be awarded. Visit the SSRC Web site for complete program guidelines and

NEW BOOKS

Sylvia Hood Washington. 2005. Packing Them In: An Archaeology of Environmental Racism in Chicago, 1865-1954. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield/Lexington Books. The book yields a detailed analysis of the intersections of engineering, infrastructure, Social Darwinism, race, and ethnicity in early cases of environmental inequalities in Chicago's Back of the Yard and Bronzeville communities. It also deconstructs (with primary evidence) the widely held assumption or belief that large-scale and self-motivated environmental activism was absent in poor and minority communities until the modern environmental movement (1960s-1970) and the environmental justice movement (1980s).

Sylvia Hood Washington, Heather Goodall, Paul Rosier. 2005. Echoes from the Poisoned Well: Global Memories of Environmental Injustice. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield/Lexington Books. Echoes from the Poisoned Well provides a "bottom up" perspective of environmental struggles from marginalized communities across the world and provides theoretical essays addressing the causation of these marginalizations across cultures and geographies.

Pablo J. Boczkowski's book "Digitizing the News: Innovation in Online Newspapers" (MIT Press, 2004) has received the 2005 Outstanding Book Award from the International Communication Association.

Looking for a new text for an Introduction to STS course? Science, Technology and Society: A Sociological Approach, by WK Bauchspies, J Croissant, and S. Restivo, will be published by Blackwell and will be available for the fall semester. ISBN 0631229787.

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
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706
608-265-2724 tel
608-265-5389 fax
fujimura@ssc.wisc.edu

Council Members

Susan Silbey ssilbey@MIT.EDU (07)
Christopher Henke
chenke@mail.colgate.edu (07)
Laura Mamo lmamo@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@cwru.edu (06)

Secretary/Treasurer
Daniel Kleinman
dlkleinman@facstaff.wisc.edu

Student Representative
Aryn Martin am285@cornell.edu (05)

Committees

Membership: S. Zehr, T. Gieryn

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Awards: Merton: Laura Mamo, Chair; Jennifer Fishman; Patrick Carroll.

Hacker-Mullins: Rene Anspach (Chair); Chris Henke

Publications: Andrea H. Tapia

WebMaster: Ricky Leung
rleung@ssc.wisc.edu

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 H. Tapia
Assistant Professor of Information Sciences and Technology
(814) 865-1542
329G IST Building
The Pennsylvania State University
State College, PA 18603
atapia@ist.psu.edu

Todd Paddock
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Sociology
P.O. Box 5838
Winona State University
Winona, MN 55987-5838
507-457-5426
tpaddock@winona.edu