

ASA-SKAT • Science, Knowledge, And • Technology Section

Spring 2000.

Editors: Jennifer L. Croissant, University of Arizona, Franz A. Foltz, RIT

From the Editors

Welcome to the year 2000. After much fanfare, it does not seem all that different from 1999. We were going to have special millennial issue, but since the new millennium does not begin until next year, we thought better of it.

We again bring you a 12-page issue of the newsletter. There just seems to be so much happening. This edition includes our regular sections "From the Members," "Book Notes," Reach Opportunities/Calls etc.," and "Employment Announcements." We also include information concerning the section awards from Ed Hackett, information on those individuals nominated for the SKAT Council from Diane Vaughan, and from Stephen Zehr a special invitation from the program committee for a teaching workshop on "Teaching Sociology of Science and Technology," scheduled for the ASA meetings in Washington this summer.

Franz A. Foltz

Table of Contents

From the Editor	1
Section Awards Nominations	1
At the 2000 Meetings	2
From the Members	2
Book Notes	4
Section Election Nominations	5
Research Opportunities/Call for Papers & Reviewers/Grants & Fellowships	
/Upcoming Events	6
Employment Announcements	8
SKAT Council and Committee Information	12

Section Awards: Call for Nominations

Robert K. Merton Professional Award. SKAT invites nominations (including self-nominations) for the Robert K. Merton Professional Award. This award is given annually in recognition of scholarly achievement, represented by a book or body of work concerning science, knowledge, and technology published during the preceding five years. The awardee, who should be a member of SKAT during the year in which the award is given, will be honored at the ASA meeting in August 2000. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2000. For each nomination, please send a brief letter identifying the work(s) to be considered, their publisher(s) (presses or journals), and any supporting materials that would help the committee understand the contribution (for example, published book reviews). Please send materials to Edward J. Hackett (address below).

Distinguished Scholarship Award. This award is given annually in recognition of scholarly achievement, represented in a body of work and outstanding leadership in the study and teaching of the social study of science, knowledge, and technology. The awardee, who should be a member of the section during the year in which the award is given, will be honored at the ASA Annual Meeting in 2000. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2000. For each nomination, please send a brief letter identifying the scholar and work(s) to be considered, their publisher(s) (presses or journals), and any supporting materials that would help the committee understand the contributions (for example, published book reviews). Please send materials to Edward J. Hackett (address below).

(Continued on page 12)

At the 2000 Meetings

Stephen Zehr (Szehr@usi.edu) announces: At the invitation of the program committee, a teaching workshop on "Teaching Sociology of Science and Technology" is scheduled for the ASA meetings in Washington this summer. Anyone who is teaching courses in this area, or considering such courses, is encouraged to attend. Details will be available as the program develops, and contact S. Zehr for more information or suggestions.

From the Members

Bernard Phillips writes: I would like to update my editorial printed in the Summer 1999 issue of the Newsletter, where I referred to "the growing gap between physical science and technology and our ability to solve social problems," castigated "Buzzword Bingo" and suggested that "we can attempt to link our abstract sociological [concepts] to one another to gain deeper insight into the current situation of modern society." All of us have heard this kind of thing before in one form or another, yet what has developed over the past months is a project—granting that it is only a tiny step—aimed at addressing these issues. Its general approach is an orientation to the scientific method, which promises to build bridges across specialized fields of the discipline, with the resulting platform of knowledge from the discipline as a whole serving as a springboard for addressing absolutely fundamental social problems.

The project is being carried forward by an eighteen-member informal group of sociologists interested in pursuing Mills' idea of the sociological imagination. We are working toward demonstrating this possibility in a research conference—open to all—during the evenings of the Washington ASA meetings (Aug. 12, 13, 14 and 15) at one of the two ASA conference hotels. We will present papers based on an approach to the scientific method—which admittedly is only one possible orientation—and aim to publish the result as a volume in the "Sociological Imagination and Structural Change" series with Aldine. We have also submitted a request to the 2001 Program Committee for the Anaheim meetings that three open sessions, all on this same theme of "Sociology as a Science: Pro and Con," be

chaired by David Maines, Bernard Phillips and Thomas Scheff, with any overflow chaired by James Kimberly, and we are hoping for a second volume from those sessions. Sociologists interested in inquiring about these efforts or submitting a paper for the research conference should contact me (bernieflps@aol.com, or Bernard Phillips, 2002 Harbourside Dr., #1602, Longboat Key, FL 34228).

I believe that what is required in addition to specialized work within our forty Sections is sustained attention throughout the discipline to the question of how we can move toward more rapid cumulative development and increasing credibility. Plans for discussion of this question at the ASA meetings in 2000 and 2001 do not add up to sustained attention to this question, which I feel strongly is an urgent one at this time in history. It is to this end that the group has developed a proposal calling for an additional session at the annual meetings for any Section that wishes to develop a session on the topic, "Sociology as a Science: Pro or Con." In this way, this topic could be given the attention it deserves, discussed by sociologists of all persuasions, and could become a continuing minor theme of our annual meetings. I ask readers to write to any one of the signers with their reactions to it, pro or con, and to attend the Business Meeting at the ASA annual meeting in Washington to express their opinions. The proposal would not involve any revolutionary change in the discipline, and it is certainly very far from addressing effectively the complex problems of modern society. Yet I believe that it would yield a useful step in those directions. Please do not assume that others who believe as you do will follow through. Every reader is

responsible for the present situation of the discipline, and the discipline is in my view—given its incredible potential—largely responsible for the present state of modern society. We would like to bring this proposal—to be presented at the ASA Business Meeting at the 2000 meetings in Washington—to the attention of all sociologists:

Proposal for Additional Sessions at the Annual Meetings

We believe that sociology's potential for rapid cumulative development and increasing credibility remains unfulfilled largely because the discipline has not, on a continuing basis, focused sufficient attention on the issues involved in the idea of sociology as a science, whether pro or con. For example, many of us see the lack of communication among sociologists in different fields—in common with the other social sciences—as pointing toward a veritable Tower of Babel, going against our ideals for openness to knowledge. Yet the discipline persists in failing to build bridges connecting knowledge in different fields. Recent controversies between sociologists who question the very idea of a scientific sociology and others who see the scientific method as fundamental have helped to lay bare some of our basic assumptions, and we would like to see such discussion emphasized throughout the discipline. We view this as important both for those interested in more rapid development of our substantive knowledge or pure sociology as well as for those concerned with applied sociology with its focus on understanding the social problems which presently threaten societies worldwide. Given this rationale, we recommend to the ASA Council that every Section which desires to organize a session at the annual meeting around the theme of "Sociology as a Science: Pro and Con"—where there would be openness to all points of view within the discipline—be permitted to expand its allowed number of sessions so as to include such a session. In this way, this topic could become over time a continuing minor theme at the annual meetings, taking its place alongside of the

changing major themes addressed by the Program Committees. This proposal is not a push for the importance of methods, theory or the sociology of science over all other topics. And it is not an effort to detract from the ongoing achievements of specialized work within our forty Sections. Rather, it seeks to emphasize questions which have been with us since the origins of the discipline yet now appear to have become more urgent for sociology as well as society. How might we proceed to decrease the fragmentation within sociology and back up our specialized knowledge with what we have learned from the discipline as a whole? Is it possible for us to move much further in the development of sociology as a science, where we learn to achieve rapid cumulative development and attain increasing credibility, or is this a hopeless endeavor? Can such efforts give us a direction for building bridges among the social sciences?

David W. Britt, Wayne State U.,
dbritt@econ.wayne.edu

Richard E. Edgar, redgar@eurekanet.com

James C. Kimberly, U. of Nebraska-Lincoln,
jbkimber@email.msn.com

Bronwen Lichtenstein, U. of
Alabama-Birmingham, sbrodsky@att.net

Guenther Lueschen, U. of Alabama-Birmingham,
LUESCHEN@sbs.sbs.uab.edu

John J. Malarkey, III, Wilmington College,
jmala@wilmcoll.edu

Bernard Phillips, bernieflps@aol.com

Martin Sawzin, MSawzin@bu.edu

Thomas J. Scheff, U. of California-Santa
Barbara, scheftj@gte.net

Jay Weinstein, Eastern Michigan U.,
Weinst@aol.com

Book Notes

Kelly Moore, Barnard College, km104@columbia.edu

Richard Harvey Brown, author of many books on social science, science, and narrative, contributes to the debate on how science can be democratized in Toward a Democratic Science: Scientific Narration and Civic Communication (Yale University Press, 1998). As the title suggests, Brown argues that scientific narratives are the locus of scientific power, and are thus the site at which democratization—the inclusion of more people in making scientific knowledge and making decisions about scientific knowledge production—can and should take place. Elegantly written, Brown reviews a wide range of writing on the role of narrative and their making of authority. His analysis of narratives of conversion—when scientists go from not believing to believing—is particularly fascinating. In spite of the lively writing and interesting review of narrative, his argument is unconvincing. The authority of science, and the monopolization of the creation of credible knowledge by a relatively small number of people, will not be changed by changing narratives alone. Narratives are only powerful when created by credible people, and only in particular political, legal and organizational contexts as they relate to specific problems. Still, the language used by scientists is one of the bases of the power of science and this book is worth reading as an introduction to the subject.

A more convincing proposal for the democratization of science can be found in Joseph Thornton's Pandora's Poison: Chlorine, Health and a New Environmental Strategy (MIT Press, March 2000). Thornton argues that the proliferation of deadly organochlorines (e.g. dioxins, PCBs and DDT) is not merely the result of political control of environmental policy by industry, but also the result of the ways in which scientific questions are posed and answered. Rules for measuring acceptable levels of pollutants are flawed in four ways: they fail to take into account the combined effects of the plethora of pollutants to which humans and ecosystems are exposed, health effects are often measured on either healthy adults or on laboratory animals, which means that the health effects of a lifetime of exposure are

unknown, where data are lacking, chemicals are assumed to be safe, and synthetic compounds now number in the tens of thousands, so it would take centuries to develop regulations for each. The science and the politics are inextricable, he argues, not just because industry dominates the regulatory process, but because the politics that lie behind the standards for scientific inference have been settled behind closed doors, without democratic debate. He also recognizes the political and economic obstacles to reducing and eliminating organochlorines. He proposes that decision-making about environmental policy be undertaken not only by bureaucrats who are often highly influenced by industry, but by government-sponsored panels of ordinary people who can and should provide their own views on the sorts of health risks to which people are exposed. Although the health problems caused by organochlorines that Thornton describes in the book are frightening—you will never want to dry clean your clothes again—his argument is sophisticated, his knowledge of the sociology of science thorough, and his writing is powerful and interesting.

Do you know of a book that deserves to be widely read? Is your own book forthcoming? Is there a book that you'd love to review? Please contact Kelly Moore at km104@columbia.edu

From Mary Frank Fox, GA Tech.:
The Engineering Resources Shortage: Creating New Paradigms for Developing and Retaining Women Engineers. Edited by B. Bogue, P. Guthrie, B. Lazarus, and S. Hadden. Published by SPIE -- The International Society for Optical Engineering. 1999. ISBN: 0-8194-3321-7; tel: 360- 676-3290. Based upon proceedings of an International Engineering Foundation Conference (July 1998), sponsored by the National Science Foundation, Texaco Foundation, TRW Foundation, Women in Engineering Programs and Advocates Network (WEPAN), Society of Women Engineers (SWE), and the International Society for Optical Engineering (SPIE).

Candidates for Council

Nominations Chair Diane Vaughan reports that the following have offered to run for Council for SKAT.

Lee Clarke, Associate Professor, Rutgers University (1988-present). Education: PhD, SUNY-Stony Brook (1985). Offices, Committee Memberships, and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: Weber Award Committee, Organizations, Occupations, and Work section (1998); Editor, Organizations, Occupations, and Work newsletter (1995-96); Chair, Membership Committee, Organizations and Occupations section (1993-94). Publications and Professional Accomplishments: Mission Improbable: Using Fantasy Documents to Tame Disaster, University of Chicago Press, (1999); Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools Mentoring Award (1998); "Prosaic Organization Failure," American Behavioral Scientist 39 (1996) (with Charles Perrow); "Oil Spill Fantasies," Atlantic Monthly (November 1990); Acceptable Risk? Making Decisions in a Toxic Environment, University of California Press (1989).

Kelly Moore, Assistant Professor, Barnard College (1993-present). Education: PhD, University of Arizona (1993). Offices, Committee Memberships, and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: Newsletter Book Notes Editor, Science, Knowledge, and Technology section (1998-present); Book Award Committee, Science Knowledge, and Technology section (1999-2001); Nominations Committee, Collective Behavior and Social Movements section (1997-1999). Publications and Professional Accomplishments: "Getting Rid of God: The Secularization of American Science," \$58,000 grant, Pew Charitable Trusts Program (1999); "Social Movements and Institutional Change: Political Protest in America and its Effects on Science." In How Social Movements Matter. Marco Giugni, Doug McAdam, and Charles Tilly (eds). University of Minnesota Press (1999); "Organizing Integrity: American Science and the Creation of Public Interest Science Organizations," American Journal of Sociology 101 (1996).

Trevor J. Pinch, Present Position: Professor, Cornell University (1990-present). Education: PhD, Bath University (1982). Offices, Committee Memberships, and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: Session Organizer, Science, Knowledge, and Technology section (1998); Session Co-Organizer, Science, Knowledge, and Technology section (1993). Publications and Professional Accomplishments: The Golem at Large, University of Chicago Press (with Harry Collins) (1998); The Golem, Canto (with Harry Collins) (2nd ed) (1998); Robert K. Merton Book Award, Science, Knowledge, and Technology section (1994); Chair, Publications Committee, Society for the Social Study of Science (1992-94); Editor, Inside Technology, MIT Press (1989-present).

Mark A. Schneider, Present Position: Assistant Professor, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (1994-present). Education: PhD, Yale University (1985). Offices, Committee Memberships, and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: Program Committee, Culture section (1994); Shils-Coleman Award Committee, Theory section (1998); Paper Prize Committee, Culture section (2000). Publications and Professional Accomplishments: Culture and Enchantment, University of Chicago (1993); "Sacredness, Status and Bodily Violation," Body & Society 2 (1996); "Social Dimensions of Epistemological Disputes," Sociological Perspectives 40 (1997); "Olfactory Sexual Inhibition and the Westermarck Effect," Human Nature 11 (with Lewellyn Hendrix) (2000).

Research Opportunities/Call for Papers & Reviewers/Grants & Fellowships/Upcoming Events

"SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY AND THE FUTURE OF LATIN AMERICA."

ESOCITE 2000. OCTOBER 23-26, 2000. UNICAMP - CAMPINAS, SAO PAULO - BRAZIL. ESOCITE aims at bringing together scholars from different backgrounds interested in discussing the state of art of science and technology in Latin America from the perspective of the Social Studies of Science and Technology. The Science and Technology Policy Department (DPCT) at UNICAMP (State University of Campinas) hosts the next ESOCITE biennial meeting in Campinas (Sao Paulo, Brazil) from October 23-26, 2000. Conference meeting theme is "Science, Technology & Society and the Future of Latin America". The program committee invites proposals for individual papers and panels on topics related to a wide range of aspects surrounding this main theme.

Conference organizers strongly encourage the submission of panels of three or more papers. We are particularly interested in panels that encompass a range of perspectives and stimulate "cross-talk" among scholars of different disciplines. Proposals for individual papers must include a 150-word abstract.

Proposals for complete sessions should also include a description of the session, general topic and a list of the presenters, names and paper titles, and the name of the chairperson, including e-mail address of all participants. Proposals are due by: FEBRUARY 15, 2000 (PANELS) and MARCH 15, 2000 (INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS).

Abstracts may be written in Spanish, Portuguese or English and in Word versions for Windows/98. Please send the abstract submission form along with your 150-word abstract to: E-mail: redcts@ige.unicamp.br or Fax: 19 289 1562. If your presentation is part of a panel, please indicate the name of the panel organizer. The conference fee will be US\$ 20,00 for students and US\$ 35,00 for other participants. A specific form for the payment of this fee will be sent to you along with the acceptance.

Further details contact: ESOCITE Executive Committee: Rosana Horio Monteiro (horio@ige.unicamp.br -- Program Chair) or Adriana Teixeira (redcts@ige.unicamp.br -- Secretary), Erasmo Gomes, (erasmo@ige.unicamp.br), Clarete Paranhos

(clarete@ige.unicamp.br), Tatiana Scalco (scalco@ige.unicamp.br). ESOCITE Scientific Committee: Renato Dagnino (rdagnino@ige.unicamp.br) Lea Velho (velho@ige.unicamp.br) Maria Margaret Lopes (mmlopes@ige.unicamp.br) Andre Furtado (furtado@ige.unicamp.br) Hernan Thomas (thomas@ricyt.edu.ar)

Taking Nature Seriously: Citizens, Science, and Environment. February 25-27, 2001, University of Oregon. This conference is designed to bring together scientists, community activists, and science studies scholars who are working on environmental issues in an effort to reveal and move beyond barriers that have inhibited interaction between scholars in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities, and between academics and activists. From the common ground of our concern for our global environment, we devote this conference to establishing a dialogue between the interdisciplinary fields of science studies (history, philosophy, sociology, literature, cultural studies) and environmental studies (biological and natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, management, policy, design, and law), as well as between academic research and public activism.

The chief goals of the conference are to foster dialogue that engages the practical and theoretical challenges of "taking nature seriously," that illuminates the value of interdisciplinary and inter-community collaboration, and that envisions new models of scholarship and policy that can move us beyond culturally constructed barriers. We will explore whether and how scholars studying scientific practices can contribute to more effective scientific research and policy formation, and we will investigate the ways practicing scientists and environmental activists can and do work together on pressing environmental issues. Such a dialogue promises to enable both a richer understanding of similarities and differences in our approaches to environmental problems and a realization of the common ground shared in our ultimate goals.

Keynote Speakers: *Donna Haraway*, author of *Primate Visions*; *Modest_Witness@Second_Millennium*; *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women*. *Richard Lewontin*, author of

Biology as Ideology, The Dialectical Biologist, Education and Class, The Genetic Basis of Evolutionary Change, and Not in Our Genes. *Andrew Pickering*, author of *Constructing Quarks*, *The Mangle of Practice*, and *Science as Practice and Culture*

Suggested conference topics include but are not limited to: * Empirical analyses of specific environmental issues and proposed/implemented actions (for example: salmon restoration, forest protection and management, toxic waste management, ozone depletion, genetically modified organisms). * Questions of expertise, citizenship, and sustainability. * Environmental justice: the relationship between protecting the environment and implementing equity among people. * The roles of humanistic and scientific rhetoric in environmental arguments and activism, including how best to translate theories and research results into public environmental discourse. * The nature and potential of Public-Interest Science (i.e. scientific research developed and conducted with the collaboration of an active, informed citizenry). * The value of science studies for environmental studies and vice versa. * Investigations of the current realism/social constructivism debates. * The history and role of the idea of an independent reality free of human interaction. * Analyses of distinctions such as body/mind, nature/culture - whether and how they might be productively reconceived. * Assessments of recent models and metaphors for framing the material and social aspects of nature, such as the cyborg, hybridity, actor network theory, the mangle of practice, and the transgenic organism, etc. * The contributions of feminist science studies and race theories to the bridging of science studies and environmental studies / scholarship and activism.

Panels: We hope to form several interdisciplinary panels on the above and related themes. Our goal is to encourage collaboration and interchange between scientists, activists, and science studies scholars. For example, a panel on Genetically Modified Organisms might include: a geneticist, to discuss the effects of gene modification at the organismal and ecosystem levels; an environmental health activist, to present issues relating to health concerns; and a science studies scholar, to discuss conceptions of "natural" at play in current environmental health debates. Prospective presenters are welcome to submit a complete panel proposal or to advertise for panel participants on the conference Web site. (Send a title and a brief description of your proposed panel, along with contact information, to conference

coordinator Lynne Fessenden,
tns@darkwing.uoregon.edu.)

Submission Guidelines: Abstracts for proposed papers, research presentations, panels, and forums are encouraged. Please send three copies of a two-page abstract and one copy of an abbreviated curriculum vita for each participant. Prospective presenters should keep in mind an interdisciplinary and inter-community audience rather than a specialist audience. **Proposals are due no later than May 1st, 2000.** Send proposals to: Taking Nature Seriously, Environmental Studies Program, 10 Pacific Hall, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-5223. Web site:

<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~tns>

Contact: Phone: 541/346-5399. Fax:

541/346-5096. E-mail: tns@darkwing.uoregon.edu

Conference Organizers:

Nancy Tuana, Ph.D., Philosophy, Women's Studies & Environmental Studies, William Rossi, Ph.D., English & Environmental Studies, Lynne Fessenden, Ph.D, Marine Biology, Science Communication, & Environmental Studies.

AGENCIES OF GLOBALIZATION AND IDENTITY: The editors are seeking original essays for an edited volume on the agencies of globalization and identity. This volume connects two thematic poles, globalization and identity, by exploring a variety of intermediary institutions and organizations, including, but not limited to, producers of knowledge; nation-states; interstate alliances of commerce, warfare, or security; social movements that operate at local, national, regional, and global levels; indigenous cultures; mass media and consumer cultures, and so forth. Scholars from the social and human sciences are invited to submit abstracts, proposals, and papers dealing with the many horizons of globalization and identity. Submissions that address questions of "Who globalizes?" and "How?" in theoretical, ethnographic, or comparative-historical perspective are most appropriate. All contributions should be written for a broad and intelligent audience. Manuscripts should be 25-30 pages. Send two copies and a brief biographical sketch including contact information to James Murphy, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742-1315. For questions, or to send the above materials electronically, email jmurphy@socy.umd.edu.

Call for Papers: One Culture? The Thematics of Art, Science and Change in the Twenty-First Century. A One Day Conference on Saturday 27th May 2000 at the School of Arts and Humanities of the University of North London on the relationship of Art and Science and the Depiction of Science in Narrative and Cultural Products. Organized by The London Network for Modern Fiction Studies in conjunction with the University of North London this one-day conference considers broadly issues of Culture & Science, and Science and the Arts.

The often gendered division between art and science, romanticism and utilitarianism, fact and fiction, the split typified between the two cultures of F. R. Leavis and C. P. Snow has persisted for more than two centuries: now perhaps with recent developments in chaos theory, complexity theory and neuroscience in the last twenty to thirty years we find ourselves on the edge of a new scientific revolution in which what counts as science and the rational is shifting or about to change. Are we moving toward talking of one culture and one life-world? Is a new critical sensibility emerging that will affect the nature of study, research and exegetical structures?

The conference attempts to explore a variety of aspects concerned with these themes and the general relationship of narrative, depiction and theory with images and knowledge of science. Interdisciplinary, textual and theoretical contributions are particularly welcome, but clearly the range of subject areas relevant to the day would be plural. The following is suggestive rather than inclusive: the so-called hard sciences, mathematics, social sciences, political sciences, neurosciences, psychology, cultural studies, literary theory, textual exegesis, film studies, philosophy, the philosophy of science etc..

The range of topics and/or panels might include: Philosophy of Science; The Logic and Implications of Chaos; Complexity Theory; Authorizing Science – telling the tales of scientific experiment and development; Facts as Fictions Science and Narrative; The Psychoanalyst as Narrative Presence; The Literary Mind/the Brain as Text; Neuroscientific Stories; Bio-poetics and Bio-aesthetics; Fictions in Science; Beam Me Up Scottie! Science Fiction and the Ongoing Development of Technology; Mad Scientists, Body Snatchers and Intellectuals; The Social and Political Narratives of Science; Demon Seeds and Baby Milk: Eugenics, Bio-technologies and the GM world.

This conference is part of a sequence that takes place during six days in May/June 2000, a further part of an ongoing successful series of literary and theoretical events organized by the London Network for Modern Fiction Studies. The One Culture? Conference is situated near the heart of London at the University of North London adjacent to underground links minutes from the research facilities of the New British Library at Euston, and so offers an ideal opportunity for the scholar to contribute to the critical and literary culture of London while pursuing their own ongoing research.

Deadline for Submissions: Monday 3rd April 2000. Anticipated registration fee: £16 (£11 students, postgraduates and concessions). Contact for Submissions or Further Details (e-submissions preferred and should be disk or file attachments Word/Wordperfect pc format): Dr. Philip Tew, Co-Director: London Network for Modern Fiction Studies, 22a Fairmead Road, LONDON N19 4DF, 0956 951930, tewp@clara.net

Employment Opportunities

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Department of Science and Technology Studies invites applications for the position of **department chair** at the rank of tenured full professor. The ideal candidate has experience in program building and will be able to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration among the humanities and social sciences, and between them and other schools in the university, such as engineering, architecture, and science.

Rensselaer is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from women and members of minority groups. Review of applications will begin March 1 and continue until the position is filled. The preferred starting date is August 1, 2000. Send CV, letter of application, and names of three references to: Chair, Search Committee, STS Department, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy NY 12180-3590.

Teachers College, Columbia University, has two positions (rank open) in the programs in Computing, Communication and Technology. We are looking for persons with the "Demonstrated creative capacity to employ new media, using them purposefully as historical forces to shape a more worthy social and cultural order; insightful, critical understanding of a broad domain of inquiry and a comprehension of the ways information and communications technologies contribute to the advancement of knowledge; eagerness to work sympathetically with children and teachers in schools as they are, helping them transform real educational conditions into the schools that can and should be; strong research agenda that will engage a range of student interests contribute significantly to a vigorous program of externally funded research and development." A fuller description of the positions is available at http://ccte.tc.columbia.edu/ccte_search.html. Contact: Prof. McClintock, rom2@columbia.edu, the head of the search committee and coordinator of the programs or HERVE VARENNE, hhv1@columbia.edu Professor, Programs in Applied Anthropology and Anthropology and Education

The Department of Sociology at Michigan State University seeks application for a tenure-track, 12-month position, at the full professor level, in the social scientific aspects of microbial risk analysis and the food safety system, pending final approval of the University. The position is supported by the College of Social Science. The responsibilities of the position are 50 percent teaching and 50 percent research. The successful candidate will be expected to begin work in Fall, 2000.

The prominence of food safety issues, including safety of water, on national and international political agendas has led to the elaboration of the food safety system. One of the critical elements of that system is risk analysis (including identification and characterization, assessment, management and communication). The significant types of hazards for food and drinking water safety include both toxicology and microbial hazards. Applicants should have an established record on risk analysis. A record of scholarly activity on the food safety system and food and drinking water risks in general is desirable.

The incumbent of the position will collaborate with a colleague from the biological

sciences in building a program to study the process and practice of risk analysis (and especially the uses of microbiological, epidemiological and socioeconomic information in that process) at the National Food Safety and Toxicology Center. In addition to having social science competence in the area of food safety, applicants should be generalists to the extent that study and guidance can be provided in all disciplines represented in the Center. Applicants should have a demonstrated capability for collaboration with researchers and practitioners in a variety of other biological and social science disciplines related to food safety and risk, including areas of systems analysis, food safety policy and risk communication. Ph.D. required in Sociology or related field.

Applicants should be persons who can act as the catalysts in developing sociologically and biologically based microbial risk assessment teams. Applicants should be team builders who can identify needs and gain access to the resources to fill the needs, from both within and outside the University. The person hired is expected to have experience in developing sustained, externally supported research agenda on food and drinking water safety. It is equally expected that the person would understand the necessity of considering the international dimensions of the food safety system and food law.

Teaching responsibilities could include graduate courses in the sociology of food, the sociology of agrifood systems, the sociology of risk, rural and environmental sociology, and the sociology of science and technology, especially as related to agricultural and natural resources; undergraduate courses in the sociology of food, rural and environmental sociology, and the sociology of science and technology; and integrated social science courses.

Candidates should send a letter of interest, resume, and three letters of reference to: Risk Analysis & Food Safety System Search Committee, Department of Sociology, Michigan State University, 316 Berkey Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824-1111. The deadline for receipt of materials is March 1, 2000 or until a suitable candidate is found. For further information, call the department at 1-517-355-6641.

*Handicappers have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodations. Michigan State University is an Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Institution.

The UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN- MADISON invites applications for two faculty positions beginning August 2000 for a new science studies program. This new program is intended to encourage interdisciplinary cooperation among UW-Madison faculty who make science, technology or medicine (STM) their object of study.

POSITION #1: The first position is for a tenured appointment in the area of the sociology of science. Applicants must be outstanding scholars with a strong record of research and a commitment to teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The successful applicant will be expected to assume a major leadership role in the new science studies program. The likely tenure home is the Department of Sociology. Ph.D. or equivalent is required. Send letter of application referencing Job Code #SS1 and a curriculum vita to Science Studies Search Committee, c/o Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, 8128 Social Science Bldg., 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, WI 53706. Direct email inquiries to scisearch1@histsci.wisc.edu. Application deadline to assure full consideration is January 18, 2000. Finalists will be asked to supply three letters of recommendation. Unless confidentiality is requested in writing, information regarding applicants must be released upon request. Finalists cannot be guaranteed confidentiality. Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities are urged to apply.

POSITION #2: The second position is for one or two tenure-track or tenured faculty in the general area of science studies. Successful candidates will receive an appointment in appropriate campus departments with an affiliate appointment in the science studies program. Preference will be given to candidates whose research and teaching simultaneously engage two or more of the major disciplines of science studies, including but not limited to history, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, communication, or literature of science, technology and medicine. Suitable subject areas and approaches include, but are not restricted to, those dealing with STM in relation to social epistemology, non-Western contexts, education, public understanding, risk analysis, political economy, cultural studies, gender studies, race, or law. Candidates' specific fields or disciplines are less important than a demonstrable commitment to research and teaching in the interdisciplinary domain of science studies. Ph.D. or equivalent is required for the appointment. Candidates seeking tenured positions are expected to be outstanding scholars with a strong record of excellence in research, teaching and service. Send letter of application referencing Job Code #SS2 and a curriculum vita to Science Studies Search

Committee, c/o Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, 8128 Social Science Bldg., 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, WI 53706. Send email inquiries to scisearch2@histsci.wisc.edu. Consideration of applications will begin February 7, 2000. Finalists will be asked to supply three letters of recommendation. Unless confidentiality is requested in writing, information regarding applicants must be released upon request. Finalists cannot be guaranteed confidentiality. Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities are urged to apply.

Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Arizona. The position is for a full-time academic year appointment, August 2000-June 2001, during which the candidate will help to develop assessment procedures for the "Universities in the Information Age" program; co-supervise a research seminar for graduate students undertaking qualitative and quantitative work in the area of contextual studies of information technology and intellectual property in academic science and engineering, and, conduct his/her own research and contribute to collaborative research efforts in the areas of study related to ethics and values, information technology, intellectual property, and work in academic science and engineering.) Duties and Responsibilities: Develop an assessment strategy, including data collection, about the program and students. Co-supervise a research seminar for graduate students, including regular meetings with students and, some review of student materials (grading). Conduct independent and collaborative research. Develop independent or collaborative research proposals. Minimum Qualifications: Ph. D. in a relevant field, including interdisciplinary programs, education, the social sciences, or business, management, and engineering programs. Demonstrated research base in the areas of technology studies, higher education, sociology or science and technology or related fields concerned with science, technology, society, and ethics and values. Preferred Qualifications: Experience in supervising research. Experience in a diversity of research methodologies. Excellent communication and networking skills.

To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to: Dr. Jennifer Croissant, Department of Materials Science & Engineering The University of Arizona, Harshbarger Building, Room 16C, P.O. Box 210012, Tucson, AZ 85721-0012 .

Assistant Director, Science and Technology Studies, Falls Church Virginia Tech.

DEADLINE: Feb. 21, 2000. Virginia Tech announces a tenure-track appointment in Science and Technology Studies (STS) at the Assistant Professor or early Associate Professor level beginning August 16, 2000. The successful candidate will serve as a member of the STS faculty and as Assistant Director of the STS Graduate Program at the University's Northern Virginia Center in Falls Church, located in the northern Virginia/Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

We seek applications from scholars with demonstrated experience in one or more research traditions in STS and willingness to learn about others. Candidates must have the Ph.D. in hand by August 2000 as well as ability to engage productively in program development; ability to offer guidance to students who are working professionals and are diverse in background, race, gender, and ethnicity; strong teaching record and willingness to contribute to distance learning; and commitment to an active research program.

A major responsibility of this position is to continue building a strong regional presence for the STS Program, expand enrollments for STS courses, and recruit candidates for the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. The Assistant Director receives some release from teaching in exchange for this important administrative work. The hiring unit for this position is the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies (CIS) in the College of Arts and Sciences. Formed in 1995, CIS is comprised of a number of interdisciplinary programs, including the STS Graduate Program and undergraduate programs in Black Studies; Humanities; Humanities, Science, and Technology; Interdisciplinary Studies; Judaic Studies, Religious Studies; and Women's Studies. The STS Program is run jointly with the Departments of History, Philosophy, and Sociology. The STS Program provides opportunities for students to pursue the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. The Program has a strong record placing 23 Ph.D. recipients and 54 M.S. recipients in appropriate positions. At present, 44 students are in residence at the Blacksburg campus and 28 students at Falls Church, established in 1995.

Interested candidates should send a detailed letter of application, current CV, recent writing

sample, syllabi for courses taught or teaching portfolio if available, and at least three letters of recommendation. We will begin screening applications on February 21, 2000. The review process will continue until the position is filled. The College of Arts and Sciences is deeply committed to recruiting, selecting, promoting, and retaining women, persons of color, and persons with disabilities. We strongly value diversity in the college community, and seek to assure equality in education and employment. Individuals with disabilities desiring accommodations in the application process should notify the search committee chair (TFY: 1-800-828-1120) by the application deadline.

Please send applications to Gary Downey, Chair, STS Search Committee, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0227. You may also call or write: 540-231-4761 (o), 540-231-7615 (dept), 540-231-7013 (fax), downeyg@vt.edu. For a more complete description of the position, consult <http://www.cis.vt.edu/stspositions/>.

The Department of History of the University of California at Los Angeles invites applications for a postdoctoral appointment in the history of science for 2000-01. We invite applications from scholars working on the history of any area of science in any part of the world, and especially from those whose historical research includes a social, cultural, or economic dimension. We also welcome applications from scholars who can link history of science to history of technology, medicine, social science, expertise or the professions. The successful candidate will teach one course in each of the three-quarters of the academic year (late September to mid-June). Competitive salary, plus health benefits. Position subject to final funding approval. Send letter of application, cv, one publication or writing sample, a short statement of teaching and research interests, and three letters of recommendation by 30 March 2000 to:

Professor Theodore Porter, Postdoctoral Search Committee, Department of History, 6265 Bunche Hall, Box 951473, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1473

The ASA (<http://www.asanet.org>) has the *Employment Bulletin* on-line, as well as annotated links to other employment listings and job-search aids.

(Continued from page 1)

Hacker-Mullins Graduate Student Award. SKAT also invites nominations (including self-nominations) for the Hacker-Mullins Award. The \$200 award is given to a graduate student for a published article or unpublished paper concerning science, knowledge, and technology that was completed during the preceding 12 months. Students are especially encouraged to nominate their own papers for this award. The award will be presented at the 2000 August ASA meetings. The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2000. Please send a copy of the work to: Edward J. Hackett, Department of Sociology, Box 872101, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-2101, email: ehackett@asu.edu

SKAT Officers and Committees

Chair

THOMAS GIERYN
Sociology Department, Ballantine 754,
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405
phone (812) 855-2950, fax (812) 855-0781
Message (812) 855-4127
gieryn@indiana.edu

Chair-elect/Program Chair

JOAN H. FUJIMURA
(1999-2000) School of Social Science
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, NJ 08540
phone: (609) 734-8267, fax: (609) 951-4434
fujimura@ias.edu,
fujimura@leland.stanford.edu

Secretary/Treasurer

Mary Frank Fox, mf27@prism.gatech.edu

Council (Term Ends)

Edward J. Hackett (00), ehackett@asu.edu
Steven Epstein (00), sepstein@ucsd.edu
Stephen Zehr (01), szehr@smtp.usi.edu
Diane Vaughan (01), dvaughanbc@aol.com
Monica Casper (02), mjcasper@cats.ucsc.edu
Syndey Halpern (02), shalpern@uic.edu

Student Representative:

Jason Owen-Smith, jsmith@U.Arizona.EDU

Committees (Contact the Chairs to Volunteer)

Membership: S. Zehr.
Nominations: D. Vaughan, Chair.
Awards: E. Hackett, Chair. Monica Casper,
Jennifer Fishman, Laura Mamo, Kelly Moore,
Jason Owen-Smith
Publications: Jennifer Croissant, Franz Foltz
Kelly Moore.

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.

Jennifer L. Croissant
CSTS/MSE, Bldg. 12,
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721
phone: 520-626-7110/520-621-6070
fax: 520-621-8059jlc@u.arizona.edu,
<http://www.u.arizona.edu/~jlc>

Franz A. Foltz
STS Department/College of Liberal Arts
Rochester Institute of Technology
92 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623-5604
phone: 716-475-5368, fax: 716-475-7120
fagsh@rit.edu