

ASA-SKAT: Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section

Winter 1999.

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

From the Editors

As you will probably notice, we again have produced a twelve-page issue of the newsletter. We have included important section-related election information and Kelly Moore's always-useful and much-appreciated Booknotes, however the majority of space falls under the Research Opportunities/Calls for Papers/Grants and Fellowships heading. We have received many requests from people to include announcements for this section. It seems that there are simply more and more interesting SKAT related events happening. You'll agree with us that this is good news for SKAT as a whole. Hopefully, all these events will translate into increased interest in SKAT issues and potential sources of new members for the section. We are still looking for some more informative pieces or light fare for the group. All members are invited to contribute to the newsletter.

Jennifer L. Croissant
Franz A. Foltz

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1999 Award 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 1999. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 1999. 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).

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 The \$200 award is given to a graduate student for a published article or unpublished paper concerning science, knowledge, and technology that was completed during the preceding 12 months.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 1999 August ASA meetings. The deadline for nominations is June 1, 1998. 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

1999 Section Election: Introducing the Candidates

Steven Epstein reports that the following is the slate of candidates for SKAT Section Officers. Ballots should be forthcoming from the ASA.

Candidates for Chair-Elect:

Joan Hideko Fujimura

Present Position: Associate Professor and Henry R. Luce Professor of Biotechnology and Society, Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology, Stanford University (1993-Present). Education: Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, Dept. of Sociology (1986). Offices, Committee Memberships and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: None. Publications and Professional Accomplishments: "Transnational Genomics in Japan: Transgressing the Boundary Between the 'Modern/West' and the 'Pre-Modern/East,'" in *Cultural Studies of Science, Technology, and Medicine*, ed. Roddey Reid and Sharon Traweek (forthcoming); "The Practices and Politics of Producing Meaning in the Human Genome Project," *Sociology of Science Yearbook* 19 (1999); "Authorizing Knowledge in Science and Anthropology," *American Anthropologist* 100 (1998); "Standardizing Practices: A Socio-History of Experimental Systems in Classical Genetic and Virological Cancer Research, ca. 1920-1978," *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* 18 (1996); *Crafting Science: A Socio-History of the Quest for the Genetics of Cancer*, Harvard University Press (1996), winner of the ASA's Robert K. Merton Professional Award (1998).

Candidate's Statement: *Sociology of Science, Knowledge, and Technology* is in a unique position in the discipline of sociology. Its constituency has contributed to the development of theory, to the development of research on social problems, and to the development of methods. Research in the field simultaneously has intellectual, political, and methodological agendas. My agenda for this section is to help to make these contributions more visible to and better integrated with the rest of the discipline and to promote more work at this nexus.

Chandra Mukerji

Present Position: Professor of Communication, Sociology, and Science Studies, UCSD (1989-present). Education: Ph.D., Northwestern University (1971). Offices, Committee Memberships and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: Awards Committee, Culture section (1998-2000); Editorial Board, *American Sociological Review* (1994-96); Council, SKAT section (1993-94). Publications and Professional Accomplishments: *Territorial Ambitions and the Gardens of Versailles*, Cambridge University Press (1997), winner of the Culture Section best book award (1998); "Toward a Sociology of Material Culture: science studies, cultural studies, and the meaning of things," in *The Sociology of Culture*, ed. Diana Crane, Blackwell (1994); *A Fragile Power: Science and the State*, Princeton University Press (1989), winner of the Robert K. Merton award (1991); *From Graven Images: Patterns of Modern Materialism*, Columbia University Press (1983).

Candidate's Statement: I am most concerned that the field of sociology as a whole begin to understand better the significance of the study of science and technology to social analysis. It seems that many social theorists make assumptions about how technology works, particularly in relationship to political and historical processes, that are not grounded in any empirical study. And many sociologists make sweeping remarks about how to make a scientific sociology without having a good sense of how science works. This all suggests to me that the field actually would find much of what this subfield does very useful, but the points of contact between this area and other subfields has been too modest and defensive. I would like to try to change that.

CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL

Monica J. Casper

Present Position: Assistant Professor of Sociology, UC Santa Cruz (1996-present). Education: Ph.D., UC San Francisco (1995); Postdoctoral Fellowship, Stanford University Center for Biomedical Ethics (1995-96). Offices, Committee Memberships and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: Membership Chair, SKAT section (1996-98); Council (Student Representative), SKAT section (1993-95).

Publications and Professional Accomplishments: *The Making Of the Unborn Patient: A Social Anatomy of Fetal Surgery*, Rutgers University Press (1998); "Working in and Around Human Fetuses: The Contested Domain of Fetal Surgery," in *Differences In Medicine: Unraveling Practices, Techniques, and Bodies*, ed. Marc Berg and Annemarie Mol, Duke University Press (1998); "Feminist Politics and Fetal Surgery: Adventures of a Research Cowgirl on the Reproductive Frontier," *Feminist Studies* 23 (1997); "Reconfiguring Nature and Culture: Intersections of Medical Anthropology and Technoscience Studies" (with Barbara Koenig), Special Issue of *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 10 (1996); Roberta G. Simmons Outstanding Dissertation Award, Medical Sociology Section (1996).

Candidate's Statement: I want to work on increasing SKAT's membership, especially among junior faculty and graduate students. I also want to increase SKAT's visibility among related ASA sections (e.g., medical sociology, environment and technology) as a way of fostering networks among people with similar interests. I would like to encourage junior faculty and graduate students to participate in sessions to broaden SKAT's base beyond the "usual suspects."

Sydney Halpern

Present Position: Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago (1991-present). Education: Ph.D., UC Berkeley (1982). Offices, Committee Memberships and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: Archive Committee, Medical Sociology Section (1996-99); ASA Archive Committee (1995-98); Nominations Committee, Organizations and Occupation Section (1996-97). Publications and Professional Accomplishments: *Moral Communities in Medical Science* (forthcoming); "Constructing Moral Boundaries: Public Discourse on Human Experimentation in 20th Century America," in *Bioethics in Context*, Cambridge University Press (forthcoming); "Dynamics of Professional Control: Internal Coalitions and Cross-Professional Boundaries," *American Journal of Sociology* 97 (1992); *American Pediatrics: The Social Dynamics of Professionalism*, University of California Press (1988).

Candidate's Statement: If elected, I will continue efforts to strengthen ties between SKAT, other ASA sections, and the discipline at large.

Gerhard Sonnert

Present Position: Research Associate, Department of Physics, Harvard University (1988-present). Education: Ph.D., University of Erlangen, Germany (1986). Offices, Committee Memberships and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: None. Publications and Professional Accomplishments: "Women in Science and Engineering: Advances, Challenges, and Solutions," *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* (forthcoming); "Trends in the Proportion of Women Faculty and Students in the Mathematical Sciences" (with N. Radke Sharpe), *Journal of Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering* 5 (1999); "What Makes a Good Scientist? Determinants of Peer Evaluation among Biologists," *Social Studies of Science* 25 (1995); *Gender Differences in Science Careers: The Project Access Study* (with the assistance of G. Holton), ASA Rose Book Series, Rutgers University Press (1995); *Who Succeeds in Science? The Gender Dimension* (with the assistance of G. Holton), Rutgers University Press (1995).

Candidate's Statement: I propose that we, as a section, consider initiatives and measures that would make life a little easier for those who labor at the margins of our profession (e.g., without tenure-track or tenured status). This would be an eminently useful application of our collective SKAT expertise onto ourselves.

Stefan Timmermans

Present Position: Assistant Professor, Brandeis University (1995-present). Education: Ph.D., University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana (1995). Offices, Committee Memberships and Editorial Appointments Held in ASA: Council (Student Representative), SKAT section (1994-97); Chair, Merton and Hacker-Mullins award committee, SKAT section (1996). Publications and Professional Accomplishments: *Sudden Death and the Myth Of CPR*, Temple University Press (1999); "Social Death as Self-Fulfilling Prophecy: David Sudnow's Passing On Revisited," *The Sociological Quarterly*, 39 (1998); "Debating Universality: The Case of Closed-Chest Cardiac Massage," *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy* 18 (1998); "Standardization in Action: Achieving Local Universality through Medical Protocols" (with Marc Berg), *Social Studies of Science*, 27 (1997); "Saving Lives or Identities? The Double Dynamic of Technoscientific Scripts," *Social Studies of Science*, 26 (1996).

Candidate's Statement: As a SKAT council member I hope to keep our membership numbers thriving and diverse by building alliances with ASA's medical sociology section, the society for social studies of science, and the society for the study of symbolic interaction. It would like to organize informal, dynamic discussion groups dealing with a combination of practical and intellectually provocative topics.

Book Notes

Kelly Moore, Columbia.

Thomas F. Gieryn's **Cultural Boundaries of Science: Credibility on the Line** (1999, University of Chicago Press) offers a sophisticated and beautifully written analysis of how the representations of what scientists do—as distinct from what scientists actually do in the laboratory—are the source of "a robust explanation for the predominance of science these days in settling questions about the real" (p. x). Through a series of historical cases ranging from competition over a university chair in 1836 to media representations of the cold fusion controversy Gieryn develops some familiar and some new concepts (credibility contest, epistemic authority, and boundary work). In each case he brings in a wide range of actors who struggle with words, pictures and diagrams that purport to represent nature to convince others that their version of the world is correct. Rather than examining scientists' private talk with each other, Gieryn's work focuses on interactions between all sorts of individuals and groups. Like an iterative game, the players must make use of what came before, take each other's claims into account or find a way to dismiss them, and continue to parry until some relatively arbitrary point where a credibility struggle is settled. As an added bonus, Gieryn's lively, witty writing style allows the reader to feel that the author was thinking of his audience as he wrote. I highly recommend his book for its theoretical sophistication, interesting cases, and accessibility to a range of readers.

If you read James Gilbert's **Redeeming Culture American Religion in an Age of Science** (1997) in conjunction with Gieryn's book, you will add several other fascinating cases which Gieryn's theoretical tools apply. Gilbert's highly readable examination of how interactions between scientists and religious leaders shaped the social status of science and of scientists in the post-World War II era. Rather than simply repeating a hackneyed "science versus religion" story, Gilbert

provides a more subtle analysis of how interactions between scientists, religious leaders, religious leaders who considered themselves "scientific," and scientific leaders who considered themselves religious (theists) were constrained by their beliefs, constituencies, and material resources in ways that shaped the status of science in America. The issues that concern Gilbert the most are those that have to do with moral beliefs and responsibilities. Gilbert examines arguments about how religious groups dealt with the new power of justifying action by association with science. For religious leaders and scientists who were religious, what was at issue, and what continues to be at issue, is this: If science is an "amoral" practice done for no particular end by people with no moral imperatives save to uncover laws of nature, then ought it not be governed by "moral" (read, religious) people? On the other hand, if science is derived from a set of moral imperatives, ought not those be made explicit, so that they can be debated and judged? Gilbert's historical overview of relationships between scientists and others reveals, like Gieryn's work, that questions about why attaching arguments and claims to science has worked so well in some settings (and not in others) cannot be answered without reference to interactions between scientists and other allied or oppositional groups. Perhaps what is most refreshing about Gilbert's work is that he allows a very complicated relationship between religious leaders and scientists: they sometimes enthusiastically promoted their similarities, other times they saw their beliefs and practices as bitterly opposed. In the end, like the cases that Gieryn analyzes, these interactions are the material from which current social understandings of what science is comes to be.

Send your own reviews, suggestions for books for evaluation, and other news about member publishing to Kelly Moore at km104@columbia.edu.

Call for Syllabi and Instructional Materials Science, Knowledge, & Technology

Materials are currently sought for the third edition of Syllabi and Instructional Materials for the Sociology of Science, Knowledge, & Technology. Useful materials might include but are not limited to course syllabi, topical reading lists, reviews of texts or films, web sites, term paper projects, descriptions of successful pedagogical practices, lecture ideas and outlines, and brief essays on particular topics. Basically, anything that might assist others who teach in this area is welcome. Along with a letter of thanks, contributors will receive a coupon toward a discounted purchase of the collection. Send your materials on disk (any word perfect version is preferred or microsoft word – 97 or earlier) along with a hard copy. Email or hard copy versions are also acceptable. Please send materials by 15 April 1999 to: Stephen Zehr, Department of Sociology, University of Southern Indiana, Evansville, IN 47712; szehr@usi.edu.

Research Opportunities/Call for Papers/Grants & Fellowships

The **Cardiff School of Social Sciences** (<http://www.cf.ac.uk/uwcc/socas/ressocsi.html>) is offering some attractive fellowships. Information is available at:

<http://www.cf.ac.uk/uwcc/exrel/news/research.html>, or by contacting: Prof H. M. Collins, KES, (Centre for the Study of Knowledge, Expertise and Science) Cardiff University, 50 Park Place, CARDIFF CF1 3AT, UK. Phone: +44 (0)1222 874047, Office: 874000 EXT 5502, FAX: 874436. Email: CollinsHM@Cardiff.ac.uk.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Research in Philosophy and Technology, Pennsylvania State University, Willard Building 133, University Park, PA 16802, Telephone (814) 865-3371, Fax (814) 865-3047.

Dr. J. Nadine Gelberg is guest editing a special issue of Research in Philosophy and Technology on "Sport Technology: History, Philosophy, and Policy." Papers are welcome exploring a variety of themes, including but not limited to: the ways technology has or can shape sports; interactions between sports equipment and different types of athletes; how technology can alter the meaning of a sport; technology policy in sport.

Research in Philosophy and Technology is a refereed, annual series, established in 1978 and indexed in the standard social science and humanities indices. The current general editor is Carl Mitcham. Submissions for the special issue on "Sport Technology: History, Philosophy, and Policy" (double-spaced, in triplicate, and with the author's name on a separate cover page) should be sent by November 1, 1999 to Dr. J. Nadine Gelberg Rochester Institute of Technology, College of Liberal Arts, 92 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623-5604. Email inquiries can be directed to njggsm@rit.edu.

ReOrganizing Knowledge: Transforming Institutions: Knowing, Knowledge, and the University in the XXI Century. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. September 17-19, 1999.

An international, interdisciplinary conference sponsored by The University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and the Universities of Lancaster and Warwick (UK). Abstracts due **April 25, 1999**.

For more information contact Marta B. Calas, and Linda Smircich, *Organization*, Editorial office for the Americas, Department of Management, School of Management, U. Mass Amherst, Amherst, MA 01003.

(Marta@mgmt.umass.edu or smircich@mgmt.umass.edu) and

<http://www.som.umass.edu/som/resource/projects/conference>.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Third European Social Science History Conference, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 12-15 April 2000

The ESSHC aims at bringing together scholars interested in explaining historical phenomena using the methods of the social sciences. The conference is characterized by a lively exchange in many small groups, rather than by formal plenary sessions. The Conference welcomes papers and sessions on any topic and any historical period. It is organized in a large number of networks: Africa - Antiquity - Asia - Childhood - Criminal Justice - Culture - Economics - Education - Elites - Ethnicity - Family/ Demography - Geography - Government and Politics - Health - Labour - Latin America- Middle Ages - Migration - Nations - Oral History - Political Movements - Quantitative Methods - Religion - Rural - Sexuality - Social inequality - Technology - Theory - Urban - Women/Gender.

The Conference fee will be dfl. 300 (at present this is about US \$ 150). The deadline for sending in an abstract is 30 April 1999. Further information about the European Social Science History Conference can be obtained from the Conference Internet site at <http://www.iisg.nl/ESSHC> or from the conference secretariat: European Social Science History Conference 2000, c/o International Institute of Social History, Cruquiusweg 31, 1019 AT Amsterdam, Netherlands; Telephone: +31.20.6685866; Fax: +31.20.6654181 E-mail: ESSHC@iisg.NL. Karin Hofmeester, Conference Organizer, International Institute of Social History, Cruquiusweg 31, NL 1019 AT Amsterdam, tel: + 31 20 66 858 66, fax: + 31 20 66 541 81, e-mail: kho@iisg.nl.

International Symposium on Technology and Society 1999: Women and Technology: Historical, Societal and Professional Perspectives. 29-31 July, 1999. Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

The roles of women in technology are more diverse, controversial, and important today than ever before. Historically, women's involvement in the creation, manufacture, and use of new technologies has been seriously neglected. Even today, the public has an understanding of society that usually treats women as "technological illiterates" with little stake in any aspect of new technologies. Yet since the 1950s women have tried to technologically empower themselves, particularly by entering the engineering profession. They have done so in great numbers, although today it is glaringly obvious that women are still underrepresented in engineering. Women in the field still face gender-based obstacles, expectations and biases despite decades of efforts to eradicate these problems.

We encourage contributions for topics related to this general theme: Impact of Information technology on women and women's work; Women workers in industry and manufacturing; Women in the Engineering Workforce; Women Faculty and Students in Science and Engineering Education; Motherhood and technology; Historical and current perspectives on women and technological, development; Technology and Gender Inequality

We also welcome papers in areas of interest to the members of SSIT: Environmental, health, safety, and

peace-related implications of, technology; Social, Economic, and ethical issues involving energy, information, and telecommunications technologies; History of Technology; Systems analysis in public policy decisions; Research Methods for technology-policy analysis.

Submit a one page abstract for a paper or poster, or a proposal for a paper session or panel discussion to the Co-Chairs: David Morton, IEEE History Center, Rutgers University, 39 Union St., New Brunswick, NJ 08904, d.morton@ieee.org. Or: April Brown, Associate Professor, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30332, april.brown@ee.gatech.edu.

Deadlines:

Abstracts of papers and proposals for complete sessions: March 1, 1999.

Your Notification of Acceptance: April 15, 1999.
Your Manuscript for the Conference Proceedings (some presentations may not require full length papers): June 1, 1999.

Co-Sponsors: IEEE Society for the Social Implications of Technology. IEEE History Center at Rutgers University. IEEE Committee on Women in Engineering

CALL FOR PAPERS: GLOBALIZATION AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION:
Special Theme Issue of the Journal Science Communication.

The accelerating commercialization of scientific knowledge, combined with the growing internationalization of the economy, have contributed to changing patterns in the flow of scientific information. Multinational business interests are investing heavily in developing both the newest science (such as biotechnology) and the oldest (local indigenous knowledge) for commercial

purposes. The developing world is often the object of both of these efforts. At the same time environmental issues and concerns are increasingly recognized as global in scope, creating both new tensions and new opportunities, while basic human health needs that science might help address continue to be unmet. Science Communication invites papers for a special theme issue on the topic

of how globalization and global affairs affect and are affected by scientific knowledge and interests through communication and negotiation. We encourage potential contributors to consider these and other related themes: The global commodification of indigenous scientific knowledge; Environmental and health education and communication in the developing world; International trade, international communication, and the global environment; Technology transfer, marketing science, and the global economy; New communication dynamics in international scientific collaboration. Science Communication is an interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journal and welcomes submissions from both social scientists and humanities scholars using any appropriate methodology. Thoroughly researched case studies may be particularly effective in addressing these theme-issue topics; theoretical papers supported by concrete examples are also especially encouraged.

Send three copies of research articles, with identifying information confined to a title page, to guest editor Susanna Hornig Priest, Center for Science & Technology Policy & Ethics, Texas A&M University, College Station TX 77843-4355, no later than May 15, 1999. (She may also be contacted by email at susanna@tamu.edu.) Reviews, essays, and commentary will also be considered if space is available; this material should be identified as not intended for peer review. Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced (including appended tables, figures, footnotes, and alphabetical references), using Chicago Style B, and include an abstract of 100 or fewer words. Letters of transmittal should include author contact information and statements confirming (a) that all authors have read and approved the manuscript as submitted and (b) that the material has not been previously published and is not under consideration elsewhere. Susanna Priest Interim Director, Center for Science and Technology Policy and Ethics, Associate Editor, Public Understanding of Science, 329 Dulie Bell Building, Texas A&M University, College Station TX 77843-4355. Phone: 409-845-5434; Fax: 409-847-9372.

SCIENCE IN THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY PERIODICAL: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY THE SciPer PROJECT. 10-12 APRIL 2000, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS.

The collaborative project 'Science in the nineteenth-century periodical' (SciPer), recently launched at the Universities of Sheffield (Centre for Nineteenth-century Studies) and Leeds (Division of History and Philosophy of Science), is designed to identify and analyse representations of science, technology and medicine in the general periodical literature of nineteenth-century Britain. The specific objectives are to publish several volumes of analytical essays on the portrayal of science and scientists, and to publish a printed descriptive catalogue and searchable electronic index to the science content of selected periodicals. In addition, it is intended that the project should serve to draw together an interdisciplinary community of scholars with interests in this area, and to this end a series of international conferences is planned.

The project's inaugural conference, to be held at Oxley Hall in the University of Leeds, will explore all aspects of the subject. Papers of wide

interest and broad scope are invited. Possible themes include:

- Public images of scientific and medical practitioners
- Representations of key scientific ideas (eg. evolution, energy)
- The construction of scientific orthodoxies/heterodoxies
- Gender and science
- Interactions of literary, political and scientific discourses
- Editors, contributors and proprietors
- Science and the politics of the press
- Science and the development of periodical audiences
- Scientific journalism
- The positioning of science within journals
- Periodicals of empire / science and imperialism
- Science in the literary marketplace
- Reviewing science - books and meetings
- Science education
- Science as entertainment

Illustrations and caricatures

Moral and religious representations of science

We welcome proposals for individual papers or complete sessions of two or three papers.

Approximately thirty minutes will be allowed for each paper. We plan to publish a selection of the papers from the conference, for which we have a publisher interested.

Abstracts of 200 words should be sent by 1 June 1999 to: Dr. J. R. Topham, School of Philosophy, University of Leeds, LS2 9JT. email: j.r.topham@leeds.ac.uk (no file attachments please). tel: 0114-2228484 or 0113-2333280, fax: 0114-2228481 or 0113-2333265.

Call for papers: Technological Innovation in a Sustainable Perspective. ESST Annual Scientific Conference, in collaboration with the first POSTI meeting, May 29-30, 1999, EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Many policy decisions in modern societies necessitate an understanding of the interactions between science, technology and society. There is, however, a lack of systematic knowledge about the dynamics of scientific and technological change, within households, workplaces, the media, government and elsewhere. In Europe, there exists, however, a tradition of research and training in the 'science, technology and society' (STS) field, which has produced new insights on these issues. The main objective of the POSTI project is to extract the policy implications from this academic production within the STS-tradition.

During recent years several hundred young academics have graduated from STS programs, and as part of this they have submitted theses based on their own research. Very little is done, however, to systematise the content of that research, and the ideas, insights and policy conclusions that originate from it. The POSTI project intends to map a part of this source of knowledge and create an European forum for interaction between young academics in the field, their seniors, business and policy makers. The deliverables will include a database on work by young researchers in this area, four workshops as well as a final report which summarises the main conclusions from this mapping process and the policy discussions that follows.

The database and the four workshops planned within the POSTI project will cover work hitherto completed at the participating institutions. Needless to say this research covers a large number of aspects of science, technology and society. The network will bear in mind the variety of approaches taken thus far, while at the same time focus on the policy implications of a theme identified as common within much of the conducted research. This is the theme of sustainable technological innovation and its relevance to the formulation of modern policies.

The ESST Annual Conference / First POSTI Workshop entitled Technological Innovation in a Sustainable Perspective is an opportunity for researchers to contribute to a knowledge building process in the field of sustainable innovation, by participating, debating and submitting papers.

By sustainable innovation, we mean, as a first step, two different things:

1. The sustainable preoccupations and measures incorporated in the innovation process or output;
2. The innovation process or output which aims directly at improving the present or future quality of the environment, in a broad sense.

It seems that this distinction is merely a practical choice, however, since there is a more serious problem associated with the finality of both types of innovation, i.e. the social component of their sustainability, which addresses the societal debate and acceptability of science and technology issues as well as their ecological impact.

We want to identify and document, on the one hand, various types of innovation - technical, method-oriented, organisational and systemic - and on the other, the pressures or restraining factors, the context and particular dynamics of such innovation processes. Presentations and papers should show original empirical findings on innovations and experiments, in addition to elements which could lead to the progressive construction of a theoretical framework built upon STS concepts and tools.

In the choice of the selected presentations and papers, we wish to give an opportunity to both the POSTI network of senior and junior researchers, and also non-POSTI scholars, to report on their activity and participate in discussions within a specialised group.

Programme and content guidelines:

In order to stimulate such debate, we have divided time and topics into four sessions, each one lasting half a day, dedicated to the exploration of a particular problem.

1st session: How are macro-policies and regulations translated into sustainable innovations?

Sustainable development has progressively become a public sphere at local, national and international levels, and opens an era of socio-technical change. In the near future, we will be confronted with the following key questions: How is global

reality translated into local initiatives? Who are the relevant actors? What are the best core conditions favouring sustainable innovations? How to balance public and private responsibilities and initiatives? Participants are invited to present examples, cases and experiments documenting successful or failed innovations, with the aim of enhancing the existing theoretical framework.

2nd session: Normative measures or incentives: two complementary philosophies?

Normative measures or incentives through partnerships or fiscality, for instance, appear at first glance as two different approaches to encourage new environmental processes and ideas among actors involved in technological change. One operates by imposing constraints and limits, and the other via stimulation and incentives. Intentions and practices linked with such instruments, however, sometimes produce paradoxical results. In addition, it seems necessary to take into account such operational guidelines as ISO 14000 or EMAS standards, which constitute primarily a recommendation framework. These may be considered a cultural methodology favourable to a general learning dynamic regarding the environmental consequences of technological innovation. Empirical findings and theoretical analysis should demonstrate the depth or superficiality of these claims.

3rd session: Towards a sustainable territory: user- vs. technology-oriented experiments

In the past, environmental problems encountered within the framework of territorial management have generally resulted in the implementation of technological solutions often involving the construction of new infrastructures. Over the past decade, public authorities have recognised the limits of such an approach, which tends to transfer problems to future generations. Consequently, they attempt to involve users and citizens. Whether in the area of transport, energy supply or waste management, there is an increasing number of experiments aimed at improving user and citizen behaviour. In this context, it is interesting to note that technological innovation often remains a key success factor. Participants should thus demonstrate to what extent both technological and social innovation can contribute to sustainable territorial development.

4th session: Technology transfers in quest of a convincing sustainability perspective

Recent research on development programmes (ODA) and on the overseas activities of multi-national corporations has increasingly focused on whether such activities include a concern for the natural environment of the receiving countries or not. On the one hand there are undoubtedly resource-extracting activities which contain little or no regard of such issues. On the other hand there appears to be ODA

programmes as well as private enterprises which aim for both profit-maximisation for the delivering firms as well as a contribution to the local environment through implementation of the new technology. This session focuses especially on the second type of activities: in what ways do such activities aim at reaching a state of compatibility between the two types of aims? And in what degree may one say that they have succeeded thus far? This 4th session should bring to light documented cases as well as new knowledge on some of the dilemmas linked with technology transfers and development issues when considered in a sustainable innovation perspective.

Extra-session activities: According to the number of applications we will get, we may want to organise in parallel in Poster session, with specific presentations and debates. In particular, all former ESST Master degree's holders are welcome to introduce us to their current research activity, provided that it is related to the POSTI conference topic(s). Finally, on Saturday night, a dinner party will allow all the participants to meet in a more informal manner.

Organisation: Proposals for papers should include a title, a 20-30 line abstract, a 10-line CV, with if possible relevant information on the topic presented. Deadline for proposals: March 29th, 1999.

Proposals will be refereed by a committee lead by ESST Vice-President for Research, Prof. Patrick Llerena (BETA-ULP-Strasbourg), POSTI coordinator Dr. Terje Gronning (TIC-Univ. of Oslo) and Workshop organiser, Dr. Pierre Rossel (ESST-EPFL). A draft programme will be issued by April 25th, 1999.

Contact person: Dr. Pierre Rossel,
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or Prof. Patrick Llerena <pllerena@cournot.u-strasbg.fr>, BETA-ULP-Strasbourg, or Dr. Terje Gronning <Terje.Gronning@esst.uio.no>, Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture, University of Oslo.

ESST (European Inter-university Association on Society, Science and Technology) and POSTI (Policies for Sustainable Technological Innovation in the 21st Century: Lessons from Higher Education in Science, Technology and Society). For more information, see the URLs <http://www.esst.uio.no/> and <http://www.esst.uio.no/posti/>

School of Art & Design, Coventry University. Call for Papers. "Living in a Material World," 25th - 27th June 1999.

Day 1: LOST PROPERTY? Materiality, Materialism and After

This day will address the place of the material object in contemporary culture, exploring the contexts in which things are produced, exchanged and consumed. It will necessarily explore the legacy of existing frameworks for interpreting materiality - Marxism, structuralism/semiotics, symbolic exchange, aesthetics, etc. However, it will also incorporate perspectives which breach such accepted views, and question the very material existence of the object within Late Capitalism.

1. The Ecstatic Object, or the Cultivation of the Artefact. In the era of the virtual, the clone and the consumer, what is the significance of the materiality of the aesthetic/sublime, sacrificial/sacred, economic/symbolic object. Do artworks, relics and goods require a material dimension?

2. In the Tracks of Hysterical Materialism. Ethnographies, biographies and genealogies of consumption in Late Capitalism. Marx? Benjamin? Veblen? Simmel? Baudrillard? Jameson? Bourdieu? Foucault? - whose tale do we wish to tell about meaning and value in contemporary commodities and specific consumer cultures?

3. Fetishes, Flags and Fashions: Objectifications of identity and difference. Dressing the self, dressing for others, wearing cultural values, shopping as social life, buying and belonging, producing and possessing identity - how can we approach the articulation of individual, social, ethnic and cultural identities through material forms?

Day 2: S/HE WORKS HARD FOR THE MONEY- Working Cultures

Despite (or maybe because of) the uneasy truce which exists between workers in the communication, media and cultural industries and media and cultural studies teachers and researchers, there appears to be a remarkable lack of curiosity about the conditions of work within those industries. Whilst anecdotal accounts of work within the industries do exist they seem particularly underresearched & undertheorised.

Further, much recent research has focused on the audiences for the products of communication, media and cultural workers and ignored the conditions of their production. We invite contributions from industry and academia in the form of papers or participation in witness sessions, interviews or panel sessions, with a focus on examining the material practices of people working in print media, radio, popular music, advertising, marketing and politics.

Day 3: SPACE IS THE PLACE - The Environment as Discourse

1. Psychogeography - its origins in Situationalism, Debord & Vaniegem; the British Situationist legacy; political, literary & filmic uses (Stewart Home, Iain Sinclair, Patrick Keillor); J.G. Gibson's ecological psychology - visual arrays & affordances; Walter Benjamin & the Arcades project; the flaneur since the Symbolists; the contemporary flaneuse and the female gaze.

2. Cultural geography; ; the politics of space (Lefebvre) and non-places (Auge); sexualised & gendered geographies; the racialisation of space; Sue Golding's impossible geographies; social selves and habitus (Bourdieu); social construction of subjects; mapping the subject; the geography of the person.

3. Literary geography; literary cities & locations (eg Gotham City, Engels' Manchester, Eliot & Conrad's London, Alan Moore's Northampton, George Elliot's Coventry) & the sense of place; 'lost' Black cities, ancient & modern; cinematic cities; the city in art & art in the city (Rachel Whiteread); land art.

The deadline for proposals is 30th April 1999. Proposals for papers (no more than 300 words) or enquiries should be sent to:

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Support Available for Social Studies of Science and Technology.

NSF's Congressionally-mandated commitment to electronic dissemination of Program Announcements and related documents limits the availability of printed material. This sheet briefly summarizes information about NSF programs and other funding opportunities of particular interest to researchers in social studies of science and technology, lists the URLs of Websites that provide many additional details, and provides e-mail addresses of cognizant Program Directors. NSF channels most of its support for social studies of science and technology through the Division of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research (SBER) (<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/sber/start.htm>). This Website provides direct links to most of the specific programs and activities listed here.

The Science & Technology Studies Program (STS) (<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/sber/sts/start.htm>) supports research in history, philosophy, and social studies of science and technology and, more formally, "research and related activities that contribute to the systematic understanding of the character and development of science and technology, including their cultural, intellectual, material and social dimensions." Its current Program Director is **Michael M. Sokal** (msokal@nsf.gov).

The Societal Dimensions of Engineering, Science, and Technology Program (SDEST) (<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/sber/sdest/start.htm>) folds together the former Ethics and Values Studies Program (EVS) and Research on Science and Technology Program (RST). The EVS component of SDEST supports activity "developing and transmitting knowledge about ethical and value dimensions associated with the conduct and impacts of science, engineering, and technology." The RST component "supports research to improve approaches and information for decision making concerning management and direction of research, science, and technology." SDEST's current

Program Director is **Rachelle D. Hollander** (rholland@nsf.gov). The current Associate Program Director for both STS and SDEST is **John P. Perhoni** (jperhoni@nsf.gov), who takes charge (among other responsibilities) of both programs' competitions for doctoral dissertation support. Researchers in social studies of science and technology can also seek support through many of NSF Cross-Disciplinary Activities (<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/sber/ip/start.htm>) and (<http://www.nsf.gov/home.crssprgm/start.htm>). These Websites provide direct links to many of them. Those probably most significant for researchers in social studies of science and technology are: Professional Opportunities for Women in Research and Education (POWRE), Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU), Faculty Early Career Development Awards (CAREER), Minority Postdoctoral Research Fellowships, Career Advancement Awards for Minority Scientists and Engineers, Research at Undergraduate Institutions (RUI), Research Opportunity Awards (ROA), Knowledge and Distributed Intelligence (KDI), Learning and Intelligent Systems (LIS), Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training (IGERT). Information about most of these competitions and other Cross-Disciplinary initiatives is available from the current SBER Program Manager for these activities, **Bonney Sheahan** (bsheahan@nsf.gov).

NSF awards are granted only to US institutions or US citizens, US nationals or persons with permanent US resident status. Awards can be made to individual US citizens, who are not resident in the states, but not if they are employed by a foreign institution. If foreign researchers have a collaborator at a US institution, they could get a sub-contract for a joint project through the US institution.

EXPANDED NSF SUMMER INSTITUTE. New Submission Deadline: APRIL 1, 1999

The Association for Institutional Research is pleased to announce the expansion of the 1999 Science Policy and NSF Database Summer Institute to be held in Arlington, Virginia June 19-25, 1999. Attendance at the Institute is open to faculty and doctoral students in the Social Sciences and Education who wish to expand their knowledge of the content and uses of NSF's integrated data bases on science, engineering and higher education. The institute is a combination of policy seminars and hands-on instruction in the use of the data bases.

The Institute is supported by the National Science Foundation and the National Center for Education Statistics

and participant travel, room and board costs are paid. The revised proposal "postmark" deadline (e-mail or fax submissions only) is April 1, 1999.

To obtain a copy of the guidelines for the brief proposal, call the AIR office, (850) 644-4470. You may also obtain a copy online by visiting the AIR Web site: <http://airweb.org> (click on Grants and Awards, then click on Grants). For further information, contact Susan Gertel, Coordinator of Continuing Education and Grants at: sgertel@garnet.fsu.edu.

Employment Announcements

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.

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Newsletter: Please send announcements and news to either of the editors. You may contribute electronically (please do not encode files), by regular post, or fax. Please submit news items for the Summer edition by May 15, and by October 15 for the Fall edition.

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