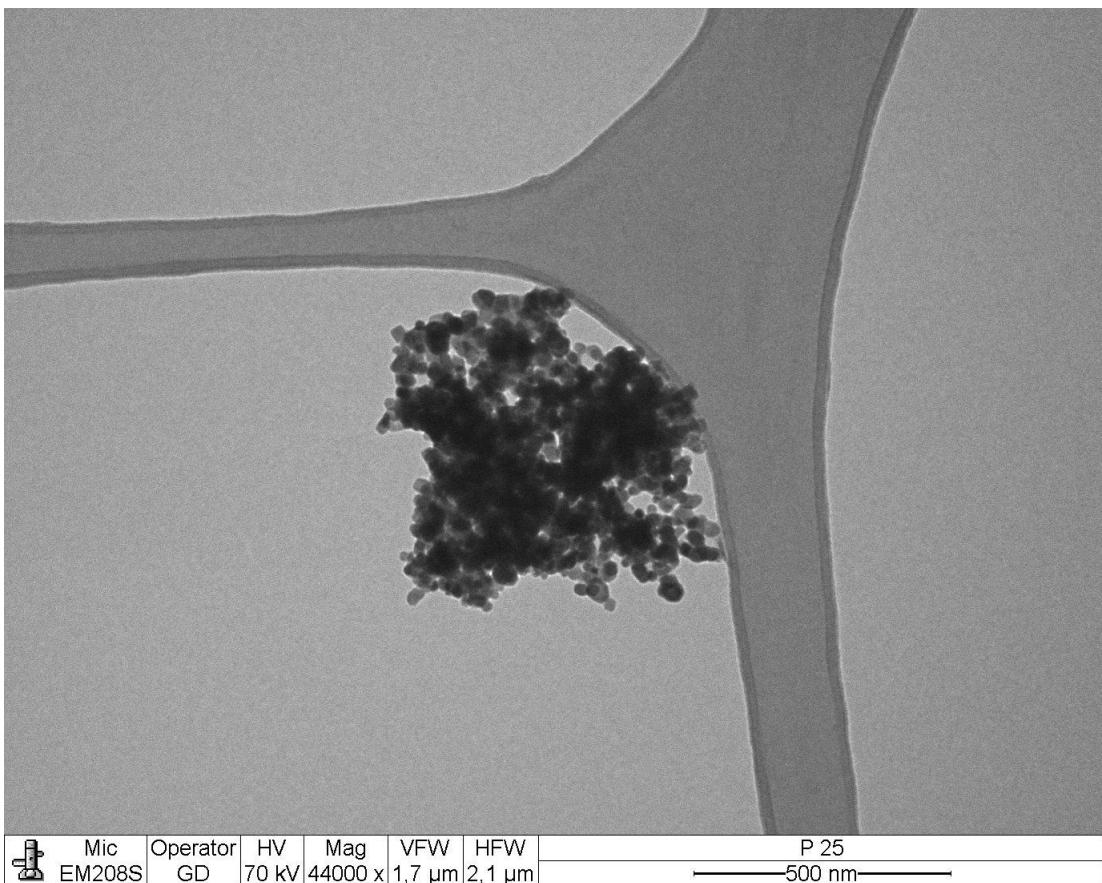


EASST

Review

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Editor: Ann Rudinow Saetnan (NTNU)

Tel:(+47) 73 59 17 86 (Saetnan)

email:annrs@svt.ntnu.no

Membership queries:

admin@easst.net

EASST Review on the Web:

http://www.easst.net

Guest Editor this issue:

Heidrun Åm (University of Vienna and NTNU)

Council of the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology:

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Department of Sociology/SATSU, University of York

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Crossroads as Places

Editorial

by: Heidrun Åm, LSG-Research Platform, University of Vienna

In the last EASST review, Ann R. Sætnan reflected on truth, time, and place, and she invited a reader to serve as guest editor. It is the issue of place that I would like to take up here. What made me offer my guest editorship is connected to geographical bounding (me being based in the same university as Ann in the moment), but more so in my relation to the interest-bound virtual “community” of STS. My place within STS is on the crossroad with political sciences. My background is in political sciences and my ‘study object’ has been nanotechnology. Still - my relation to STS derives not necessarily from my interest in nanotechnology but from my particular approach to political science that is embedded in a movement gathered under the term Interpretive Policy Analysis (IPA). In this editorial, I would like to point out examples of the exchange between STS and IPA to further interest for this fruitful cooperation.

In June, the Sixth International Conference on Interpretation in Policy Analysis was held, with an astonishing 350 participants. Thus, the field has sextupled from its first gathering with about 60 attendees. Scholars pushing the IPA were among others Dvora Yanow, Frank Fischer, David Howarth, Marteen Hajer and Herbert Gottweis. STS and IPA come together, for example, in topics such as deliberative democracy or technology governance but more importantly in their theoretical approach and methodological mindset. Indeed, STS and IPA have been connected from its start. Drawing on insight from STS on the socially constructed and contingent nature of scientific knowledge (Gottweis 1998:11), a branch within policy analysis (which is here gathered under the term IPA) turned to emphasising “a discursive, contextual understanding of social knowledge and the interpretative methods [such as ethnography, *the author*] basic to acquiring it” (Fischer 2003:211).

At the last IPA-conference in June a few panels emphasized STS: Mara Miele and Joanna Latimer from Cardiff University chaired a panel on post(human) imaginaries for a politics of human/non-human relations problematizing the ontological divide between nature and culture. And William Housley’s panel (also University of Cardiff) sought to explore how STS-approaches can contribute to policy analysis acknowledging that

STS-approaches can lend insight to understandings of policy-making and implementation.

Another forum of exchange between IPA and STS was, for instance, this year’s *General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Sciences (ECPR)* where Ingrid Metzler from the Life Science Governance Research Platform (University of Vienna) held a panel to show how STS-approaches can help interpretive policy analysis to bring ‘the material’ back in. Another place of exchange is the journal *Critical Policy Studies* in which, for instance, H. Collins and R. Evans picked up the thread of the debate on the ‘Third Wave of Science Studies’ from a political perspective in 2010. Maybe it is like a colleague of mine (from political sciences) once contemplated: “I feel like the STS-community is getting more and more political, while we are becoming more STS.”

Thus, an interesting exchange is in place from which – as we see in the examples above – on the one hand the IPA-community can benefit. On the other hand, exploring IPA can also provide inspiring thoughts for STS-scholars, particularly those working on governance or policy. I observed a tendency within STS to answer the question of ‘the political’ with a reference to B. Latour or G. de Vries. Another frequently chosen route is to draw on governmentality studies. With all due recognition to these valuable contributions, I would still like to encourage STS-folks to explore also other areas of political sciences for answering questions of the political. There is much more to the field of political sciences than preconceived interests, institutions or behavioralism, as can be seen in the positive example of the IPA. For those active in public engagement, for example in nanotechnology, I could recommend Chantal Mouffe’s work on the political. A reflection on her writings could stimulate discussions how much a strong aim to reach consensus might ultimately silence criticism by disabling it (Freeden 2005:132). Those who catch interest, I wish an enjoyable expedition in the world of political sciences and policy analysis!

In this issue of the EASST review, the question of place and community-building is also picked up in a contribution from Vincenzo Pavone (IPP-CSIC) and Adolfo Estalella (CCHS, CSIC) who report about a newly formed STS network in

Spain. This text shows that the limits between geographically bound and virtual interest-bound communities easily overlap whereby one space is characterized as the invisible and the other as the visible in this text. In the second contribution, we meet the issue of the human and the non-human again as in the IPA-panel mentioned above. You will also find a report of the last EASST council meetings, announcements for call for papers and vacancies, as well as news from the field.

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EASST Supported Activities

Following a successful initiative in 2009, EASST Council was keen to continue support for smaller activities such as summer schools, network meetings, seminars or workshops occurring in non-conference years. The focus of the 2011 call for applications was the promotion of cross-national community building within EASST and applications from, or support for participation from, parts of Europe that were currently under-represented within EASST were encouraged.

Since only a small number of EASST members are able to directly participate in the activities supported, a condition of the awards was that applicants should report on the event to EASST Review and consider other ways in which the EASST membership could be involved (for example via web links).

In this Review we include reports from two

supported events. The first was a conference for the new STS network in Spain. The second was a summer school in Lancaster on ‘Feminist Technoscience Studies’. A further doctoral / junior researchers’ workshop on ‘Cities, Infrastructures, Networks’ organised by STS Italia has taken place. There will be a report of this event in the next EASST Review (December).

Two supported activities are yet to occur. The next one is a PhD workshop ‘Hotspots of development: Places and movements of science and technology in a globalising world’ which will take place in Amsterdam from 12-14th December. You can find a call for participants in the Conference Announcement section at the end of this Review. Further reports will appear in future issues of the EASST Review.

“Making Visible the Invisible” STS Field in Spain

Report of the First Meeting of the STS Network in Spain, 25-27 May (Madrid)

By: Vincenzo Pavone (Institute of Public Policies, Consejo Superior Investigaciones Científicas, IPP-CSIC) and Adolfo Estalella (Centre for Social and Sciences and Humanities, CCHS-CSIC)

During the last few days of May, the newly formed STS network in Spain (Red de Estudios Sociales de la Ciencia y la Tecnología, eSCTS) celebrated its first meeting in Madrid, in the premises of the Cultural Association Medialab Prado. The STS network is an informal, horizontal network of around ninety STS researchers from all over Spain, which includes university professors as well as PhD students who are currently working on a variety of social issues of science and technology.

The network was formed in November 2010, after a series of meetings among Spanish STS researchers that took place within different STS events, like the SDN meeting in London in June 2010, the 4S conference in Tokyo in August 2010 and the EASST conference in Trento in September 2010. The main goal was to promote a permanent, yet flexible, system of connection and cooperation, which could encourage a more effective exchange of ideas, collaboration in research projects and co-authorship of academic work, and also constitute a platform to reflect upon the state of the art of STS in Spain, academically, institutionally and also thematically speaking.

STS studies in Spain are very fragmented, and this area of studies is neither considered a discipline nor a well established research area, for it often overlaps with history of science, anthropology and philosophy of science, which have a much longer tradition of institutional consolidation in the Spanish academic context. Moreover, STS, somewhat following the traditional organization of research groups in Spain, is dispersed in several medium to small research groups scattered across the country with little interaction with each other. Finally, with very few exceptions like the *Master in Science, Technology and Society* organized by the University of Salamanca and Oviedo University and the *Master of History of Science* organized by the UAB, there is also little specific training in STS provided by academic institutions in Spain. As a result, there are quite few Spanish STS participants at international conferences such as 4S and EASST compared to other countries of similar size and

traditions, although STS studies do in fact exist and they are even growing in Spain.

Indeed, the STS network was an attempt to address these problems and to initially provide a new online space to help STS researchers to overcome these institutional and cultural shortcomings through the meeting opportunities offered by the Internet. On the one hand, the creation of the STS network had an academic purpose because it was expected to facilitate the exchange of data, ideas, articles and proposals to promote studies of science, technology in Spain. On the other hand, the network also serves the consolidation of STS in Spain because a well-organized network can be an important reference for all STS researchers who want to work on science and technology in Spain and seek cooperation in creating partnerships and collaborations.

As membership grew and ideas began to flow into the e-network and in the blog (<http://redescts.wordpress.com/>), the network also opted for a traditional face-to-face event, and the first STS meeting held in Madrid was the outcome of this effort. The meeting was entitled “**Making visible the invisible**” and it was inspired by the same spirit sustaining the network, aiming at bringing to light the variety of STS studies and research efforts currently on-going in Spain, mapping institutions, ideas, projects and already existing networks, in order to facilitate formal and informal interactions, and the creation of platforms for debate and elaboration of new projects. The meeting was also organized with the idea of giving an opportunity to all participants to have a chance of discussing and envisioning the future of the network, and to elaborate a road map for the next two or three years. More than fifty researchers from all over Spain gathered in the center Medialab-Prado in Madrid to discuss their research, which was an excellent start both concerning the number of participants, which is very good for a first encounter, and also for the variety of topics, from lines of research, institutions, and junior and senior researchers involved.

This first meeting aimed, first and foremost, at making visible current issues and challenges, especially in relation to existing trends of STS studies in Europe and worldwide. Secondly, it also exposed, in a shared and horizontal space, a large part of the institutions, opportunities, groups and agencies dedicated to STS, giving them space and time to meet, recognize, interact, discuss, look beyond and think about the future of STS in Spain. Finally, the meeting also had an epistemological goal: to bring to the fore what STS studies make visible, but also what they hide, the invisible, what they obscure and marginalize.

In the space generously offered by MedialabPrado, during three days, young researchers as well as senior scholars already established in the field had the opportunity to openly discuss their common interests and their research questions, results and prospects in various formats. Along with traditional plenary sessions, a keynote from Brian Wynne, and panel sessions, the meeting experimented with two formats that are not so common in these encounters: a workshop for doctoral students and a space for presentation of research lines.

The meeting took off with a round table in which some senior and junior Spanish STS scholars dealt with the issues of STS, visibility and invisibility, bringing in different perspectives from not only sociology of science but also history of science, anthropology and philosophy of science. Three main themes emerged, which are likely to become main issues in epistemic debates in and around the STS research field. The first refers to the eSCTS disciplinary tensions, which were discussed at length in the opening session of the meeting. Miquel Domenech (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, UAB) expressed these tensions as a clash with his own master discipline, psychology, describing STS studies in psychology "as an octopus in a garage." Yet, he argued, STS represents a unique opportunity to rethink key aspects of psychology. The historian Agustí Nieto, from the UAB too, pointed out the potential of a stronger collaboration between science historians and scholars from STS. In fact, this possibility was embodied in one of the discussants, the historian Antonio Lafuente (CCHS - CSIC), a historian who travels through the history of science with the interpretative gaze that STS studies provide. The discussion concluded that a dialogue and collaboration between history of science and STS seems possible, but not without difficulties.

In fact, Lafuente addressed a second theme: The recurring confrontations and tensions within the

field of STS in Spain, which partially explain the absence of a common space for dialogue and the lack of consolidation of earlier initiatives. The STS meeting in Madrid was, in fact, not the first of its kind: just five years earlier, in 2006, a similar meeting was held in Barcelona, which also hosted a large number of researchers in Spain. The initiative, however, was not followed up by any other event of this kind, although the Madrid meeting may have harvested some of the fruits of that earlier encounter.

If the disciplinary matters generally refer to what happens inside STS and among STS and related disciplines, Marta Gonzalez (the Institute of Philosophy, CCHS-CSIC) addressed a third main theme, which refers to the crucial issue of relating STS studies to their social context, which she defined as "the dilemma of political commitment." In other words, Marta pointed at the dilemma faced by STS after the rise and consolidation of social constructivism, especially in relation to the feminist studies of science and technology. Looking at a similar issue but from a different angle, Ana Delgado (University of Bergen, Norway) remarked the importance of political science and political theory within STS, which only recently seems to have been widely recognized, receiving a strong impulse.

The second day was opened by a keynote delivered by Brian Wynne, who focused on the different roles that STS studies have in the production of political orders. Wynne described in his presentation the subtle process of translation between the scientific and legislative domains and the progressive oversights that are thereby produced, which is of extraordinary relevance all along the bureaucratic trajectory that is followed by legislative proposals in the European Union.

The meeting was an opportunity to acknowledge that STS Studies recently have been moving well beyond the borders of science and technology, addressing the social domain in its entirety. Miquel Domenech, for instance, showed how the analyses carried out by STS quickly overflow the boundaries of science and technology (or extend indefinitely), suggesting that "the problem of knowledge is always a problem of social order." Interest in science and technology is perhaps the first step in extending agency to others and pluralizing ontologies, as hinted at by Marta Gonzalez. Even more forcefully, Antonio Lafuente made it clear that we have reached a point in which STS scholars have moved their investigative gaze well beyond what happens in laboratories, focusing, as he does, on the situation and transformation of

the commons. STS studies, therefore, have overflowed the laboratory and are now interested in topics and social dynamics that are only indirectly connected with technological or scientific issues. The presentations offered through the meeting indeed covered a broad spectrum of themes and issue, ranging from the ontology of oncology to Alzheimer's and memory as an object of study, from the social role and impact of pleasure to the key role of invention in the field of architecture, and the thrill of communication 2.0. Yet, more traditional (and by no means less important) issues and topics were also present, ranging from free software or scientific collaboration to nanotechnology.

The meeting was also an opportunity to address the problematic issue of teaching STS in Spain in order to explore the existing and, perhaps, future possibilities in the context of higher education and academic studies. That few academic institutions and programs currently offer STS studies or STS courses in their curriculum is one of the reasons preventing STS from further expansion and consolidation in the country. Yet, this shall not give the wrong impression that the aim of the meeting solely was to get "more STS." Rather, and perhaps most importantly, the aim was to foster educational innovation, to discuss how to establish dialogue among multiple knowledge areas and disciplines and how to explore the fundamental issue of the increasingly porous border between laymen and experts. Education in general is a domain that STS studies in Spain should actually address more, and more in depth, in the years to come.

As a result of the meeting, participants agreed on the importance of ensuring continuity to the actions of the network and on the need to strengthen the structure of the network. Recognizing the importance of creating a common epistemic ground, several participants argued that the Spanish STS network might act as a catalyst to establish this dialogue. The network is in its infancy, but future initiatives, now in the making, give hope that it may consolidate over the next few years. Among these future actions, it is important to mention the organization of a second annual meeting in 2012 in Gijón. At the end of the meeting, it was also decided to strengthen the Network mainly through two initiatives: thematic groups and STS correspondents. Nine working groups have been established, which aim at giving an opportunity to

scholars working on similar issues to have an institutional yet open common space to foster future collaboration. Current working groups address biomedicine and health; strategies for integration of history and contemporary studies of science and technology; environment; digital cultures; public participation and collective action; scientific culture; bodies, eating habits and practices of socialization; care and technology; and, subjectivity and affect – but more thematic groups on different areas may start and operate in the future. On the other hand, the network of STS correspondents throughout Spain aims at identifying and sharing areas of interest for the Network, and serves as the STS points of reference in the geographical areas in which correspondents operate. In both cases, the specific articulation of these strategies remain open and up to further development by the respective participants.

Emerged initially as a mailing list, the network remains open to contributions, ideas and initiatives from all its members and those wishing to join, because there is still much to do. So far, there has emerged a widespread desire to experiment: experimenting, for instance, with the types of form, structure and organization that a community of scholars like this can take in order to serve equally the interests of those who belong to it and its social context. There also emerged the desire to experiment with the ways in which we share knowledge, we gather, learn, teach, communicate our findings and results, and why not, our doubts and weaknesses. The next destination of the Spanish STS Network, therefore, is the second annual meeting to be held in 2012 in Asturias, which will be a wide-open opportunity for further experimenting with both issues.

We hope, in short, the Madrid meeting to be a first step in developing an important initiative, based on digital communication and face-to-face encounters and on openness and horizontality, which provides ideas, proposals and visions, but also shares questions, concerns, and training. We also hope that it might be a first step of a process of innovation and consolidation that gives the Spanish community of STS scholars a new space, and new tools to foster the studies of science, technology and society within Spain and to further a closer connection between STS studies in Spain and the wider STS community in Europe and across the Atlantic.

Feminist Technoscience Studies: Articulating the Human and the Non-Human

Report of a course taught at Lancaster University, 23-26 May 2011

By: Charikleia - Hara Konsta (PhD-Candidate, National & Kapodistrian University and Technical University of Athens, Greece)

The Department of Sociology of Lancaster University organised this innovative intensive taught course/workshop in May 2011, aiming to bring together postgraduate scholars in Feminist Technoscience Studies (FTS) and Science and Technology Studies (STS). This was a multi-national event where graduate students from countries around the world (Chile, Australia, Sweden, Germany to name but a few) exchanged ideas aiming to generate possibilities on re-thinking relations between human, animals and machines.

On the opening day of the workshop Professor Maureen McNeil (Lancaster University) explained detailed key concepts of the Feminist Technochience field by focusing on important issues for feminist technoscience studies. The central idea was the necessity to find alternatives to the forms of human exceptionalism that have dominated modern thought, and more particularly technoscience. Other key ideas presented by Professor McNeil were the definitions and the inter-relationship of the three concepts *Feminism*, *Technology* and *Science*. After the presentation the group debated questions for the origins of knowledge ("Who formulates knowledge and from what perspective? Why do we "see" and perceive the world the way we do?" and many more). The day was concluded with the beautiful and thought-provoking film «Invisible» (2006). Artist and film maker Roz Mortimer's work was an excellent introduction to the relationships between nature, animals, humans reproduction techniques and the effects of contemporary science and technology to humans through animals. The documentary film, among others, provoked questions on how we perceive the natural and the non-natural.

The second day started with group discussions on the film-showing and participants were asked to draw sketches in order to define how they see themselves in relations to animals. Afterwards, Dr. Celia Roberts (Lancaster University) gave a lecture on methods of looking on animal, microbe and human articulations. She presented different kinds of analysis methods where

images are used as a primary research material in order to reach conclusions about human-animal relations. Part of her research was about the use of bodies and animals in the production of scientific knowledge («Are animals and humans alike and if not what are the boundaries in such a perception?»), followed also by a workshop and discussion. Later on we saw Dr. Vicki Singleton (Lancaster University) who presented her feminist commitment to a scholarship of care that reminds us to attend closely to questions of how difference is made, and when and how it comes to matter. Dr. Singleton presented her ongoing research on UK farm practices, relations between farmers and animals, legislation issues like tagging on cows and how these affect accountability and responsibility. The relationships between farmers and animals provided useful questions and links with my research interests which related-among others-to the relationships between a technology (computing) and humans (users). After lunch break, the participants had a field trip to the empirical location of Cobble Hay Working Farm. The aim was to understand practises of human and non-human relations and commitments. The day finished with the workshop dinner at WaterWitch Pub, with plenty of creative and productive discussions among the workshops participants.

On the third day, the international scholar, Professor and Queen's National Scholar, Myra Hird (Queen's University, Ontario, Canada) presented opportunities to gain scientific knowledge from different disciplines as well as the nature. Her *conversations* included areas like sociology (for example, the social construction of gender and how gender produces sex, formation of cultural identities), psychology (persistent belief in sex as a sign of gender, continued association of homosexuality with pathology), psychoanalysis (the norms of society, gender identifications and the melancholy of gender identification, symbiosis that can be parasitic), feminism (the authenticity debate: why we need identities?, Are we in the realm of the body's erasure by concepts of culture?). She also

talked about Donna Haraway's description of the «fantastic lie» of reproduction, that it is a way to leave our individual features to descendants, something that can in fact happen only through cloning. She emphasized questions like “why does reproduction matter?” and suggested the study of bacteria in order to understand contemporary societies and articulate differences between sex and gender definitions. After lunch, participants divided in groups, and composed poster presentations on the relevance to technoscience to their ongoing research projects.

In the afternoon the key international scholar, Professor Karen Barad (UC Santa Cruz, USA) and the distinguished Professor Emerita of History of Consciousness and Feminist Studies, Donna Haraway (UC Santa Cruz, USA) presented their work via video-link presentations looking at how technology affects our lives by criticize technology on the human. More specifically Professor Barad presented her philosophical and technoscientific method to determine the relevance of time and space based on quantum physics and Aboriginal tribe perceptions where times does not go forward but it splits in different directions. Unpicking time in this way re-defines the western approach, in order to understand how humans engage with the world. Her method is based on the «metaphoreality» of science and critiques the use of science as a tool to write history in a more abstract manner. «...We live in a three-dimensional world. For a better understanding we should try to evaluate the world in four-dimensions instead». Donna Haraway gave an expansive presentation which covered many areas such as symbiogenesis and autopoiesis of organisms and the 2 split experiment in quantum physics and its relation to time and

perceptions of cause and effect. Researchers were described as «quantum scissors», cutting through the slime, becoming entangled and making brakes in knowledge, «cutting together apart». Haraway encouraged us to «interfere well» and «make mistakes in interesting ways».

The closing day, Professor Lucy Suchman presented a video on artificial intelligence, materiality and practises of science and the interaction between human and a machine (a human-like behaving, anthropomorphic robot). Based on previous discussions during the four-days workshop, professor Suchman suggested that we went from human to non-human (animals) but that it however was still not clear what the artificial intelligence machines were. The presentation also included brainstorming on the open and still too problematic questions in the discipline about how non-human is a machine, followed by group discussion on intimacy and sympathy feelings viewers developed through robot's behaviour, movements, design, etc.

This course was a cutting-edge and thought-provoking, offering extensive and boundless ideas from diverse fields. I was gladly part of this workshop with the kind support of the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology. EASST fully supported my participation with a bursary award and I would like to thank the association for giving me this opportunity. I went back to Greece with much to think about.

*A special thanks to Rebecca Fish
(Doctoral Candidate, Lancaster University) for
her useful additions and the proofread of this
report*

News from EASST Council

The EASST Council met recently in Copenhagen. Part of the meeting was held at Copenhagen Business School, the location of the next EASST / 4S conference in October 2012. Council met with the local planning committee and discussed their developing plans and shared experiences from previous EASST conferences. We also had a tour around the buildings where they intend to hold different

parts of the event. They have some really interesting plans and it is shaping up to be a great event! There will be an announcement of the theme and significant dates for submission fairly soon so watch out for it via Eurograd or our website.

The Council meeting also discussed developments in the membership system and plans for the website. Thanks to those of you

who have renewed your membership – if not we hope you will do so shortly. A benefit of the new online membership database will be the opportunity to log in and add in your interests and change other details. You will also be able

to search for other members on various criteria. This is close to completion and you will receive an email shortly. Plans for the new website are also progressing so we hope you will see the results of this work soon.

Conference Announcements and Calls for Papers

Inaugural conference of the Belgian Science, Technology and Society (BSTS) network. This event will be held on **Friday, September 30th, at the Royal Academy of Belgium (Brussels), from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM.** Keynote speakers include **Isabelle Stengers** (Université Libre de Bruxelles), **Dominique Vinck** (Université Pierre Mendès-France) and **Arie Rip** (Universiteit Twente). There will also be a panel discussion with high profile practitioners.

Established in 2008 as an ad-hoc academic platform, the BSTS network enables STS researchers in Belgium to share with one another their research interests and disciplinary perspectives and to foster collaboration across different fields and locales. The network now extends beyond academia and beyond Belgium to engage an international community consisting of people from research centres, industry, policy making and other professionals with an interest in cross-disciplinary learning and knowledge sharing.

All the information about this event is to be found at the BSTS network's website: <http://www.stsn.be/kickoff/introduction/>

Registration is free but mandatory.

To register, please visit <http://www.stsn.be/kickoff/registration/> or email virginie.bigare@ulg.ac.be.

The 12th International Public Communication of Science and Technology (PCST) Conference ‘Quality, Honesty and Beauty in Science Communication’ will be held in **Florence, Italy, 18-20 April 2012.** Proposals are welcome for presentations on ‘science communication’ and ‘science in society research’, ‘science journalism’, ‘science museums’, ‘public engagement with science and technology’ and ‘communication activities by research institutions’.

The overall theme of the conference is *Quality, Honesty and Beauty in Science Communication*. Proposals are especially invited on themes such as:

- What does quality mean in science communication?
- Evaluating public communication of science
- The art of communicating science
- Ethics and Responsibility in Science Communication
- Aesthetics of Science Communication

Other themes of interest are:

- Communicating the Social Sciences
 - Reflexive challenges: Communicating PCST
 - Public Communication of Technology: the ‘Cinderella’ of PCST?
 - Professionalisation and career models in science communication
 - Science centres as forums for communicating controversial science
- As always at PCST conferences, proposals are also welcome that address:
- Emerging trends and issues in science communication
 - Changing media, changing formats, changing science communication models?

The **deadline for proposals is 30 September 2011.** Submitted proposals will be reviewed by members of PCST Scientific Committee, and the final program will be announced in January 2012.

Reduced fees will be available for early registrants and students. Travel grants for junior participants are available. For further details, please visit: www.pcst2012.org

Eu-SPRI Early Career Researcher Conference: ‘INTERACT UNI: New perspectives on enduring

research questions in university-society interaction? Towards an emerging multi-disciplinary research agenda for knowledge exchange and co-creation within science, research and innovation policy studies.' **May 9 to May 11 2012 University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands. Deadline: November 30 2011**

This conference aims to bring together leading early career researchers across a range of social science disciplines to provide an open forum driving an emerging scientific conversation around science-society interactions. The involvement of a senior scientific panel from leading European professors in this field will help to incorporate the voices of young researchers into the scientific mainstream, and help to develop the next generation of researchers in the field of European policies for science and research.

The conference welcomes papers from a range of disciplinary backgrounds and traditions, including policy studies, political science, sociology, studies of science and technology, public administration, the economics of science and innovation, research management, and entrepreneurship. The organisers encourage contributions that critically reflect on the role of knowledge in society through knowledge exchange, co-creation and transfer practices in and between organisations and institutions. The emphasis in this critical reflection should be on the knowledge exchange systems and networks between wider national science and education systems, and more localised practises and behaviours of knowledge creation and circulation.

The following are suggested as sub-themes, but not necessarily limited to:

- Ethics, politics and utility in science and technology agendas and practices
- Understanding and moderating value system conflicts in practices of research
- Entrepreneurship and excellence in research systems and institutions
- New careers and disciplines in science, technology and innovation
- Accountability, governance systems and innovation for utility
- Socialisation and structuration in emerging science and technology domains
- Uncertainty, mediation and translation in knowledge valorisation practices
- Public engagement, interaction and involvement in research and innovation
- The risks and rewards of contemporary science, research and innovation shifts.

The conference invites early career researchers (defined as Ph.D students and post-doctoral researchers) to submit an extended abstract and brief CV (as one document) including their publication

track record.

The conference is open to 30 participants. The organising committee will select those 30 participants based on their abstracts' scientific quality and relevance to the conference theme. More information about the conference format and venue is available at <http://www.utwente.nl/igs/IGS%20-%20Eu-SPRI%20ECRC%20INTERACT%20UNI/>

Ph.D. Course: Introduction to Medical Science and Technology Studies: Networks, Practice and Embodiment, 28 November – 2 December 2011 at University of Copenhagen.

Aim of the course: The course presents students to a selection of theoretical and analytical approaches within medical science and technology studies (STS). The course will illustrate and discuss how these STS-inspired approaches can be helpful in empirically investigating issues of knowledge, technology, organization, identity and politics related to medical practices.

Course content: Practitioners of medical science and technology studies share a common interest in the interdependence of science and society, nature and culture. However, diversity and differentiation within this field makes *one* description of medical science and technology studies (STS) problematic. Rather than a unified position of a scientific community and a coherent theoretical basis, STS includes various theories, methods, approaches, goals and interests of its practitioners.

Departing from three central tropes in STS literature – *network*, *(work)practice*, and *embodiment* this course aims at providing PhD students interested in the relationships between medical science, technology and society, with an overview and introduction to this heterogeneous field. The course investigates three influential perspectives in medical science and technology studies: 1) Actor Network Theory (ANT) & post-ANT; 2) Symbolic interactionism; and 3) Post phenomenology. Each of the three perspectives will be discussed from a theoretical and analytical perspective and central concepts will be discussed in relation to concrete empirical analysis presented by guest faculty.

Faculty: Jan Kyrre Friis, Annegrete Juul & Henriette Langstrup, Centre for Medical Science and Technology Studies, Department of Public Health, KU and guest faculty Evan Selinger, Rochester Institute of Technology, Tiago Moreira, Durham University, and Casper Bruun Jensen, IT University Copenhagen.

Registration: Before 31 October. **For further information and application, please see:** <http://phdkursus.sund.ku.dk/frontPlanner/DetailKursus.aspx?id=95566>

Call for Papers: **VALUES AND NORMS IN MODELING** (VaNiM 2012), June 25-27, 2012, Eindhoven, The Netherlands. We invite submissions for the upcoming conference *Values and Norms in Modeling* (VaNiM 2012) which will be held at Eindhoven University of Technology in cooperation with Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands, June 25-27, 2012.

It is widely acknowledged that a large variety of values and norms (including epistemic, moral, and political values and norms) play an important role in modeling. Although the literature about value-free science is huge, the specific theme of values and norms exclusively focusing on modeling has not yet received the attention it should. Models are often conceived of as being approximate representations with epistemic or even non-epistemic purposes, which makes them subject to a plethora of normative influences. We are interested in questions such as: How do epistemic and non-epistemic values affect the production and assessment of models? What is the moral significance of these values and norms? To what extent, if any, does the allowance of value assessments threaten the objectivity of models? Would it be desirable, and possible, to eliminate epistemic or non-epistemic values and norms from models? We invite papers addressing these and related issues from a foundational as well as an applied perspective. We especially welcome contributions on non-epistemic values in engineering modeling, climate modeling and modeling in operations research.

Keynote speakers: Bas van Fraassen & Isabelle Peschard, Ilkka Niiniluoto, Stephan Hartmann, Eric Winsberg, Susan Sterrett, Arthur Petersen, Wendy Parker, Marc Le Menestrel

Abstracts of no more than 500 words can be sent to vanim2012@easychair.org until January 10, 2012. All proposals have to be submitted under one of the four conference themes:

1. VALUES IN MODELING: FOUNDATIONAL ISSUES
2. VALUES IN ENGINEERING MODELING
3. VALUES IN CLIMATE MODELING
4. VALUES IN OPERATIONS RESEARCH MODELING

Contact: Sven Diekmann, s.diekmann@tue.nl, Department of Philosophy and Ethics, Eindhoven, University of technology, The Netherlands

Call for Papers: **2nd Seminar on Higher Education and Innovation Research: UNIVERSITY IN TRANSITION, Helsinki, Finland 12-13th April, 2012.** The Seminar on Higher Education and Innovation Research is an annually organized academic event that brings together scholars, administrators and other experts from a range of higher education fields. The theme of the second seminar is “University in Transition”. The theme will be approached from multiple perspectives including higher education management, the academic profession, higher education and learning, internationalisation, and the economics of the education and innovation system. Plenary lecturers include Dr. Arnaud Chevalier, Royal Holloway, University of London; Prof. Filip Dochy, K.U. Leuven; Prof. Benoît Godin, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique (INRS) and Prof. Peter Maassen, University of Oslo. More information can be found on the webpage of the seminar <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/heineSeminar/>.

GUIDELINES AND SUBMISSIONS: **Abstracts (300-500 words) are to be submitted by 31th of October 2011.** Abstracts must be written in English or Finnish depending on the language of the workshop. Please submit your abstract as a MS Word file with your full name included. Send your abstract by e-mail directly to workshop chair(s). More detailed descriptions of the workshops can be found at <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/heineSeminar/workshops/>. Accepted abstracts will be published on the webpage of the seminar.

Call for Paper: **The European Journal of Risk Regulation (EJRR)** invites submissions for a **special issue on EU-China risk regulation** that investigate specific Chinese and European topics within the areas covered by the EJRR from a comparative perspective. Additionally, we are looking for contributions from international scholars and practitioners which evaluate fields covered by the EJRR and especially case notes from the respective jurisdictions.

The EJRR is an international journal that provides an innovative forum for informed and

scholarly discussion on how risks are regulated across policy domains. The EJRR understands itself as a truly multi-disciplinary journal.

Please send inquiries and article submissions to: ejrr-china@lexxion.de, **Submission deadline: 2nd April 2012.**

PhD Workshop: Science, Technology and Development, Amsterdam, December 12 -14, 2011. Hotspots of development. Places and movements of science and technology in a globalising world. DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: OCTOBER 22, 2011.

Sponsored by The European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST), The Netherlands Graduate Research School of Science, Technology and Modern Culture (WTMC), Research School for Resource Studies for Development (CERES), Wageningen School of Social Sciences (WASS), Science Dynamics, University of Amsterdam

Organisers: Dr. Rob Hagendijk, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Dr. Harro Maat, Wageningen University, Ms. Annapurna Mamidipudi, Maastricht University/ Dastkar Andhra, Hyderabad, India

Venue: VOC Room, AISSR, Kloveniersburgwal 48, Amsterdam

Targeted audience/participants (maximum 25): PhD students and young professionals with a background in science and technology studies (STS), Development Studies as well as young professionals in medicine, natural science and engineering aspiring to explore STS and development issues input to their work.

Workshop theme: Science and technology are essential ingredients of social life, in the western world as much as in developing countries. Yet, in the developing world there are many differences as to what counts as science, how technologies operate, who is involved and how this relates to 'indigenous' knowledge. This workshop explores issues of space and mobility in connection to science, technology and development.

Issues of mobility, boundary-work, spaces and fluids are common topics in STS. However, few studies include cases from non-Western settings. The workshop objective is to explore and discuss theoretical questions and empirical cases of the 'hotspots' where science, technology and development intersect in the economically underdeveloped world. Invited speakers will address issues of scale and circulation, Western science and

indigenous knowledge, showcase projects and below-the-radar innovation. How does technological change affect populations and governments? What can be done to speed up translations and adaptations in specific domains or regions? How to arrange for collaboration and support that really serves capacity building and local problem solving? The workshop enables participants to create a better understanding of these issues and how science, technology and development connect or fail to connect in and between particular locations and spatial levels. In doing so, it also stimulates a careful assessment of relevant theories and concepts in STS and development studies. Participants will be challenged to explore how these themes relate to topics and approaches taken up in their PhD studies.

Workshop format: The workshop activities will include presentations and discussions as well as hands-on exercises to explore implications for actual research and development projects. Participants are challenged to respond to the presentations through targeted group and plenary discussions. Participants are also invited to present their own work and seek connections with the presentations.

Speakers: Prof. Shailaja Fennell (University of Cambridge), prof. Luc Soete (Maastricht University), prof. Stuart Blume (University of Amsterdam), prof. Wiebe Bijker (Maastricht University). Dr. Dominic Glover (Wageningen University), Dr Esha Shah (Maastricht University), prof. Andy Stirling (IDS Sussex), prof. Arie Rip (Twente University).

Applications & fee: If you are interested in participation please send an application by email to the organisers. A full application will include a short description of your current research (including thematic and regional orientation and conceptual framework), a short CV, a letter of motivation, country of origin and current residence, institutional affiliation(s) and contact information. Fee: € 375 for PhD students, € 450 for others. Fees include lunches, coffee, tea and a conference dinner. Not covered: Lodging/travel. A number of fellowships covering the fee and part of the travel cost are available to facilitate participation by young scholars from less developed countries. PhD students who are registered members of WTMC or CERES do not have to pay the workshop fee. EASST members get a € 50 discount on the fee.

For application and inquiries, please **contact** the organisers: R.P. Hagendijk (r.p.hagendijk@uva.nl) H. Maat (Harro.Maat@wur.nl); A. Mamidipudi (annapurnam@gmail.com)

Opportunities available

Tenure-track Position: Assistant Professor of History of Science, Technology, and Medicine at Underwood International College, Yonsei University, Korea.

The Underwood International College of Yonsei University invites applications for a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine to teach at the International Campus in Songdo, Incheon, located within the greater Seoul metropolitan region. Those who specialize in East Asia are especially encouraged to apply. Candidates should have strong research credentials and a firm commitment to undergraduate liberal arts education.

Teaching responsibilities are 6 credit-hours (2 classes) per semester. At least one of these classes will count towards the science literacy requirement of the program. The preferred starting date is March 2012. Compensation includes competitive salary, health insurance and other benefits, fully-subsidized housing (for up to 6 years), and a generous relocation and start-up package.

Yonsei University's Underwood International College is a highly competitive program at South Korea's most prestigious private university, and combines the intimate atmosphere and low student-faculty ratio of a liberal arts college with the resources of a major research university. All instruction is in English, and the student body represents over 25 different countries. As part of Yonsei University's continuing effort to increase faculty diversity, we are only accepting applications from non-Korean citizens.

Interested applicants should send a short letter of application, dissertation abstract, and c.v. by email: (uic@yonsei.ac.kr). Review of applications will take place from September 30, 2011. Short-listed candidates will be asked to submit 3 letters of recommendation, a writing sample, and sample syllabi. For additional information, please contact Prof. Michael Michael (mmichael@yonsei.ac.kr). Prospective applicants are also encouraged to look at our website at <http://uic.yonsei.ac.kr>.

IAS-STS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME 2012-

2013. The Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society (IAS-STS), Graz, Austria, announces its fellowship programme 2012-2013.

The IAS-STS in Graz, Austria, promotes the interdisciplinary investigation of the links and interactions between science, technology and society as well as technology assessment and research into the development and implementation of socially and environmentally sound technologies. The IAS-STS is broadly speaking, an institute for the enhancement of science and technology studies.

The IAS-STS invites researchers to apply for a stay between 1 October 2012 and 30 June 2013 as a Research Fellow (up to nine months) or as a Visiting Scholar (shorter period, e.g. a month). The IAS-STS offers excellent research infrastructure. Close co-operation with researchers at the IFZ (Inter-University Research Centre for Technology, Work and Culture; see: www.ifz.tugraz.at), guest lectures, workshops and conferences provide an atmosphere of creativity and scholarly discussion.

Furthermore we can offer five grants (EUR 940 per month) for long-term Research Fellows at the IAS-STS.

The Fellowship Programme 2012-2013 is dedicated to projects investigating the following issues:

1. Gender - Technology - Environment

This area of research particularly focuses on gender dimensions of science and technology. On the one hand individual perspectives of actors in the technological field are taken into account, on the other hand educational, organisational, societal, environmental and political issues are gaining more and more relevance. Current promising research will also shed more light on the interrelation between individuals' concepts and media representations of gender and technology.

2. Genetics and Biotechnology

A focus of the Fellowship Programme lies on research providing a critical analysis of the life sciences. Researchers investigating either social aspects of biomedicine or risk and wider governance issues related to agricultural biotechnology are especially encouraged to apply.

3. Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

SCP seeks to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems. New strategies and concrete tools are needed to change individual and institutional patterns of consumption and to enhance corporate responsibility (CR) of organisations. Researchers investigating patterns of consumption and intervention strategies to promote sustainable lifestyles among both public and private consumers or working within the thematic field of ecological product policy are encouraged to apply. Research projects integrating product assessment tools such as LCA, carbon footprint, MIPS or related methods are also of special interest.

4. Energy and Climate

On basis of the analysis of social, technological and organisational framework of energy use projects should contribute to the shaping of sustainable energy, climate and technology policies. They should aim at socio-economic aspects of energy technologies or at strategies of environmental technology policy. They should develop measures and strategies for the promotion of renewable energy sources, for the transition to a sustainable energy system or contribute to the field of sustainable construction. Regional governance, climate policy strategies, innovation policy and the role of users are important themes. In addition, the Manfred Heindler grant is awarded for research projects on the increased use of renewable energies and on a more efficient use of energy.

5. Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)

Novel developments in ICT-related fields are investigated from the perspective of the social studies and the philosophy of science and technology. The inquiry covers a variety of research areas concerning ICTs and human agency. Topics may include Artificial Intelligence, ubiquitous computing, intelligent environments or ICTs and mobility. These topics are analysed with respect to their wider social, ethical and political implications. Further possible issues of interest are the social shaping of ICTs, ICT risk management and ICTs and innovation policies.

Applications must be submitted to the IAS-STS by 31 December 2011. For application forms and further information: Please visit our website: www.sts.tugraz.at

Contact: Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society (IAS-STS), Attn. Gunter Getzinger, Kopernikusgasse 9, 8010 Graz – Austria, E-mail: info@sts.tugraz.at

Senior Lecturer/Reader/Chair in Critical Environmental Social Science, University of Leeds, Faculty of Environment, School of Earth and Environment, Sustainability Research Institute (SRI).

We seek an established academic with expertise in critical and theoretical social science approaches to political or social aspects of environmental decision-making and societal behaviour. You should have a strong internationally recognised publication record, track record of research income generation and teaching experience. You will be expected to make a significant contribution to the Institute's research profile and to its management and development, as well as to contribute to research student supervision and to the School's integrated teaching programmes.

With over 30 staff and 45 PhD students, SRI forms a substantial part of one of the strongest Schools of Earth and Environmental Sciences in the UK. Research in SRI spans environmental social sciences and combines social and natural sciences in leading-edge, interdisciplinary research. SRI staff also lead successful undergraduate and postgraduate programmes on different dimensions of sustainability.

Informal **enquiries** may be made to Professor Jouni Paavola, Co-Director of SRI, tel +44 (0)113 343 6787, email j.paavola@leeds.ac.uk or Dr Lindsay Stringer, Co-Director of SRI, tel +44 (0)113 343 7530, email l.stringer@leeds.ac.uk. Job ref ENVEE0039 - **Closing Date: 31 October 2011**

The Uses and Abuses Biology Grants Programme, organised by the Faraday Institute, St Edmund's College, Cambridge, and funded by a generous grant from the Templeton World Charity Foundation, is now accepting applications for a single round of funding. Qualified academics from any university in the world are invited to apply.

The aim of the interdisciplinary programme is to investigate **contemporary non-scientific uses and abuses of biological thought** (beneficial, benign or negative) in the domains of philosophy, the social sciences, the media, religion and politics. Collaborative projects between those engaged in the biological sciences and investigators from other disciplines are particularly welcomed. The Grants Programme is being launched by means of Preliminary Applications. Successful applicants in the first round will be invited to submit full

applications for funding for periods of up to two years. The deadline for Preliminary Applications is 31st October, 2011. Full details are available from www.uabgrants.org/.

Delft University of Technology has **four job openings** as part of the research project **New Technologies as Social Experiments: Conditions for Morally Responsible Experimentation**. A complete description of the project can be requested, or is available on the website www.ethicsandtechnology.eu.

The project will be carried out in close cooperation between the four researchers to be appointed and the project leader dr.ir. Ibo van de Poel. The overall aim of the project is to conceptualize the introduction of new technologies in society as a form of social experimentation and to

explore under what conditions such experiments are morally acceptable. The project will focus on three technological domains: nuclear energy, biotechnology and nanotechnology. In each domain a PhD project will be carried out. In addition, the implications for the regulation and governance of new technologies will be investigated in a postdoc project.

Information and application: For more information about this position or to apply, please contact Dr. ir. Ibo van de Poel, phone: +31 (0)15-2784716, email: i.r.vandepoel@tudelft.nl. To apply, please e-mail a detailed CV along with a letter of application by 15 October 2011 to vacature-tbm@tudelft.nl.

When applying for this position, please refer to vacancy number ATTBM11-011.

News from the field

EASST010 Special Issue

An EASST010 Special Issue on last year's conference in Trento has been published by **Tecnoscienza (Vol 2, No 1 - June 2011)**, the Italian Journal of Science and Technology Studies:

<http://www.tecnoscienza.net/index.php/tsj/issue/view/18/showToc>

European Sociological Association SSTNET

The ESA Sociology of Science and Technology Network (SSTNET) organised a very successful stream at the recent September 2011 conference in Geneva. Topics included approaches, methods & outcomes of S&T studies, science and society, public and media perceptions of S&T, governance of S&T, social organization of science, innovation systems & policies and young professionals in academia. The stream attracted a good level of participation throughout the conference. At the business meeting of the network Katarina Prpić (Croatia) was elected the new Chair and Harald Rohracher (Austria) as vice-chair. Aaro Tupasela (Finland) was thanked for his work as previous chair and will continue as a member of the board. New members of the board are Blanka

Groboljsek (Slovenia), Conor M. W. Douglas (Netherlands), Giuseppe Alessandro Veltri (Spain) & Inge van der Weijden (Netherlands).

A new SSTNETAdvisory Board was elected:

Luisa Oliveira (Portugal), Fred Steward (EASST, UK) Nadia Asheulova (ISA, Russia), Fabienne Crettaz Von Roten (Switzerland), Ulrich Dolata (Germany).

Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Innovative Science and Engineering Fields

Although researchers from a host of disciplines have studied interdisciplinarity, there has been minimal communication across disciplinary boundaries. In order to address these issues, a two-day National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored workshop titled 'Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Innovative Science and Engineering Fields' was held in November 2010. In total, 37 researchers representing diverse disciplines attended. Together, these scholars discussed the state of the study of interdisciplinarity in their individual disciplines and the barriers and opportunities facing the study of interdisciplinary collaboration. The final report is available at: <https://sites.google.com/site/interdisciplinary2010/>

*****Books seeking reviewers*****

Biagoli, Jaszi and Woodmansee (eds.): Making and Unmaking Intellectual Property: Creative Production in Legal and Cultural Perspective. Chicago University Press, 2011.

McGettigan, T: The Pursuit of Truth and the Evolution of Reality. Lexington Books, 2011.

For a review copy or contact info, send an email to EASST Review editor, Ann Rudinow Saetnan:
annrs@svt.ntnu.no

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