

Review 2003/2004—A Report on Fellowships and Events

In the term 2003/2004, the Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society (IAS-STs) in Graz once again provided a congenial place for numerous scholars to undertake their research—mainly dissertations, habilitations and post-doc research. The interdisciplinary atmosphere created an opportunity for organising numerous events dedicated to the defence and discussion of research results with colleagues as also presentations to the public.

Fellows of 2003/2004

The Scientific Advisory Board of IAS-STs chose the following scholars from some 60 applicants in a meeting on 14 April 2003. They were appointed Fellows by the Director of IAS-STs, Prof. Arno Bammé (University of Klagenfurt, Faculty for Interdisciplinary Studies/IFF). Members of the Board are: Prof. Elisabeth List as representative of the University of Graz, Prof. Hartmut Kahlert as representative of Graz University of Technology and Dr. Harald Rohrer as representative of the Graz unit of IFF, the IFZ – Inter-University Research Centre for Technology, Work and Culture. Prof. Arno Bammé chairs the Board and Dr. Bernhard Wieser is responsible for executive management.

- (1) Alla Bolotova, Russia: Social Constructions of Nature: Soviet Geologists as Professional ‘Conquerors of Nature’.
- (2) Hajo Greif, Germany: Darwinizing Our Selves. The Evolutionary Making of Modern Man.
- (3) Imre Olivér Kozák, Hungary: Improvement of the Design Process of Environmental Limit Values through the Integration of Risk Factors.
- (4) Franc Mali, Slovenia: The Social Role of Technology in the Context of the New Mode of Knowledge Production.

- (5) Tabitha Mulyampiti, Uganda: Making Education Technologies Work: A Gender Analysis of the E-Learning Programs at Makerere University, Kampala.
- (6) Taru Peltola, Finland: Environmentally Sound Technology Alternatives and Public Energy Management.
- (7) Anna I. Pobol, Belarus: Spin-Off Firms in National Innovation Systems: Social Consensus.
- (8) Minna Salminen-Karlsson, Sweden: Technology Comes in Different Shapes to Girls, Boys and Engineers-to be. Technology Education, Technology Concepts and Gender.

Public Lectures

Ten scholars were invited to come to IAS-STs as Guest Lecturers or as Visiting Scholars (for up to one months). These Guest Lecturers and Visiting Scholars (and Taru Peltola as Fellow) gave public lectures, contributed to the IAS-STs Conference and/or participated in workshops with presentations and comments on the talks of the Fellows. The Public Lectures series is designed to present issues of broader interest to the public:

2 October 2003

Simon Guy, United Kingdom: Sustainable Architecture: Theories, Discourses, Practices.

18 November 2003

Adrian Ely, United Kingdom: Regulatory Appraisals of Bt Transgenic Maize: A Study of Science in Governance.

3 March 2004

Taru Peltola, Finland (at the Austrian-Finnish Society in Graz): Biomass and its Use in Finland.

25 May 2004

Raymund Werle, Germany: Institutionelle Analyse technischer Innovationen.

18 June 2004

Johannes Weyer, Germany: Innovationen fördern—aber wie? Zur Rolle des Staates in der Innovationspolitik.

29 June 2004

Jan-Peter Voß, Germany: Sustainability Foresight as a Method to Shape Socio-Technical Transformation: Achievements and Constraints in Light of Experimental Application to Utility Systems.

Conference

The 3rd Annual IAS-STC Conference: 'Critical Issues in Science and Technology Studies', which also served as the Alumni Meeting, took place on 23–24 February 2004 in Graz.

Programme

Monday, 23 February 2004

Opening

Günter Getzinger, Managing Director, IAS-STC and Wilhelm Berger, Vice Dean, Faculty for Interdisciplinary Studies (IFF), University of Klagenfurt

- Don Ihde, USA: Material Hermeneutics: Breaking the Diltheyan Divide.
- David Mercer, Australia: Seen but not Heard: Can STS Shape Policy in Controversial Areas of Science?

Panel A: *Governing Risky Molecules*

Chair: Bernhard Wieser

- Armin Spök, Austria: The Road to Partition—Separating Assessment and Management in Risk Policy.
- Adrian Ely, United Kingdom: Understanding the Environmental Impacts of Bt Maize and Guarding against Surprises.
- Franz Seifert, Austria: The Hegemony of Physical-Ecological Risk in the Trans-Atlantic Biotechnology Conflict.
- Sandra Karner, Austria: The Branching Out of Genetic Engineering: Safety Considerations on Forest Biotechnology.

- Imre Olivér Kozák, Hungary: The Role of Ignorance in Risk Calculations of Environmental Limit Values.
- Adelina Ilieva, Bulgaria: Dialectics of the Norm and Particular Case in Foremost Human Genetics Research.
- Manfred Hall, Austria: The 'Green Cleaning'—Blessing or Curse?

Panel B: *Theoretical Perspectives on Science and Technology—and their Practical Outcome*

Chair: Günter Getzinger

- Ulrich Glotzbach, Germany: On the Relation between Ethics and Ontology in Hybrid Worlds.
- Olga Stoliarova, Russia: K. Popper's Criticism of Dialectic and Dialectical 'Solution' of the Demarcation Problem in Contemporary STS.
- Christine Wächter, Austria: A Gendered Look at Interdisciplinary Engineering Education.
- Minna Salminen-Karlsson, Sweden: Keeping Engineering Masculine—Problems in Creating Gender-Inclusive Engineering Education.
- Ivan Tchalakov, Bulgaria: The Limits of Causal Action. Aristotle's Theory of the Life-Action of the Essence (action-'energeia') in the Light of Contemporary Studies of Heterogeneous Micro-Communities.
- Hajo Greif, Germany: Evolution and the Matter of Reductionism.

Workshop Space

Bernhard Wieser, Austria: Teaching STS.

Tuesday 24 February 2004

- Franc Mali, Slovenia: The Global-Local Dialectics in the New European Process of Scientific and Technological Integration.
- Peter Wilding, Austria: Outlook on the 6th International Summer Academy on Technology Studies 2004 in Deutschlandsberg: Urban Infrastructure in Transition: What Can We Learn from History?

Economies and Technological Innovation (Plenary)

- Todor Galev, Bulgaria: The 'Birth' of Dual Use Concept in Bulgaria: Optimistic Strategies or Real Development.

- Taru Peltola, Finland: Constituting Space for Alternative Energy Technologies: Co-operative Forest Fuel Production as a Means to Extend Economic Agency within Industrial Forestry in Finland.
- Anna Pobol, Belarus: Methodology of Research into Academic Entrepreneurship: Technology Transfer and Knowledge Transfer.
- Philipp Späth, Austria: How to Facilitate Transitions in Production-Consumption Systems? Challenges of a Strategic Accompanying Project on an Austrian Research Programme for Sustainability-Orientated Production.

Nature and Technology in the Former Soviet Union (plenary)

- Alla Bolotova, Russia: Colonization of Nature in Soviet Russia: State Ideology, Public Discourse and Experience of Geologists.
- Sonja Schmid, Austria: Popular-Scientific Discourse on Nuclear Power: A Soviet Case Study.

Workshops

Two Work-in-Progress Workshops and several Fellow Meetings providing Fellows with opportunities for the presentation and discussion of their research were held during the term 2003/2004:

Work-in-Progress Workshop, 12 January 2004

- Alla Bolotova, Russia: Colonization of Nature in Soviet Russia: Agents and Practices.
- Risto Eräsaari, Finland: Concept of Crisis.
- Hajo Greif, Germany: The Darwinian Tension.
- Imre Olivér Kozák, Hungary: The Design Process of Environmental Limit Values with the Integration of Risk Factors.
- Taru Peltola, Finland: Technological Frames and Politics of Sustainability in Energy Production: Forest Fuel Production in Finland.

- Anna Pobol, Belarus: Spin-Off Firms in National Innovation Systems (NIS): Social Consensus.
- Gerd Schienstock, Finland: Organizational Innovations. Some Reflections on the Concept.

Work-in-Progress Workshop, 7 May 2004

- Raymund Werle, Germany: New Technologies and the Protection of Intellectual Property.
- Oana Mitrea, Romania: Understanding Mobile Communication vs. Communicative Mobility through the Concept of Dispositiv.
- Imre Olivér Kozák, Hungary: Scenarios for a Regulatory Future of Urban Organic Pollutants.
- Sandra Karner, Austria: Let's Talk About GOLD! A Research Project within the Austrian Genome Research Program GEN-AU.
- Hajo Greif, Germany: The Trouble with Adaptation: Historical vs. Economical Concepts of Evolution.
- Minna Salminen-Karlsson, Sweden: Do Technical Universities Teach the Same 'Technology' Today as They Did 100 Years Ago?
- Maria Tysiachniouk, Russia: Transferring Forest Certification to Societies in Transition.
- Taru Peltola, Finland: Narratives of Sustainable Energy: Technological Frames of Forest Fuel Production in Finland.
- Alla Bolotova, Russia: Governing Rocks: Institutionalization of Geological Science in the USSR.

Alumni

IAS-STs has hosted 51 Fellows (fellowships up to 12 months, with or without grant), Visiting Scholars (fellowships up to one month, without grant) and Guest Lecturers (including lecturers at our conferences) since 1999. These scientists have made an important contribution to scholarly life at the Institute:

1999/2000

- Radostina Angelova (Bulgaria, Fellow): Decision Making, Professional Choice and Motivation upon University Entrance with Emphasis on a Comparative Analysis between Austria and Bulgaria.
- Daniel Barben (Germany, Fellow): The Generation and Shaping of Biotechnology: The Neo-Liberal Configuration of Functions and Forms of Technological Regimes in a Comparative Perspective (USA-Germany/EU).
- Eva Estók (Hungary, Fellow): Innovation and Technology Policy within Economic Growth.
- Ulrike Felt (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Wissenschaft und Öffentlichkeit.
- Tatiana Leontieva (Russia, Guest Lecturer): Degradation of Science and Technology in Russia at the Dawn of the 21st Century.
- Cristina Marcolin (Italy, Fellow): Technology Policy in the Austrian Development Aid System.
- Alan Marshall (New Zealand, Fellow): Cybernetics and the Ecosystem-Economy Analogy: A Study in the History of the Transdisciplinary Use of the Concept of Self-Regulation in Technology, Nature and Society.
- Michael Stockinger (Austria, Fellow): Technology and the Text—The Interplay of Information Technology and Contemporary Narrative (in cooperation with Alen Vitas).
- Alen Vitas (Croatia, Fellow): Technology and the Text—The Interplay of Information Technology and Contemporary Narrative (in cooperation with Michael Stockinger).

2000/2001

- Johannes Agnoli (Germany, Guest Lecturer): Technischer Fortschritt und Opposition.
- Michalis Assimakopoulos (Greece, Guest Lecturer): Science and Technology Studies in Greece.
- Ellen Balka (Canada, Fellow): Women Users: Re-Gendering Technology.

- Aristides Baltas (Greece, Guest Lecturer): HPS and STS: The Links.
- Gerald Berger (Austria, Fellow): Design-for-the-Environment as Part of a Strategy towards Ecological Modernisation: Evaluating Technological Innovations in Industry and their Promotion through Instruments of Environmental Policy-Making.
- Richard M. Burian (USA, Guest Lecturer): The Dilemma of Case Studies Resolved: On the Usefulness of Historical Case Studies in the Philosophy of Science.
- Ulrich Dolata (Germany, Fellow): Competition, Cooperation and Networking in Biotechnology. The Socio-Economic Evolution of a New Technology.
- Dmitri Efremenko (Russia, Fellow): Technology Assessment as an Instrument of Prospective Environmental and Technological Policy.
- Günter Getzinger (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Technology and the Loss of the Tactile.
- Vitaly G. Gorokhov (Russia, Guest Lecturer): Critical Assessment of Technological Progress.
- Elisabeth List (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Technische Exzentrizität.
- David Mercer (Australia, Visiting Fellow): Institutional Ecologies and Scientific Method Discourses in Legal and Regulatory Settings.
- Annette Ohme-Reinicke (Germany, Fellow): Technological Development and Social Protest Movements.
- Walter Peissl (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Technology Assessment in Austria—State of the Art and Research Activity of the ITA.
- Joseph C. Pitt (USA, Guest Lecturer): The Problem with Case Studies.
- Helmut Reinicke (Germany, Guest Lecturer): Technische Zivilisation, Ideologie, Theorie.
- Maria Rentetzi (Greece, Fellow): Women Physicists and the Material Culture of Physics: Women's Participation in the Institute for Radium Research in Vienna and the Gendered Production of Knowledge.

- Harald Rohrer (Austria, Guest Lecturer): User Participation in Environmental Innovations.
- Ariella Vraneski (Israel, Fellow): A Comparative Study on the Prevention, Mitigation and Resolution of Conflicts, and on Public Participation, as Means towards Sustainable Development.
- Doris Wallnöfer (Italy, Fellow): Technowar. The Diffusion of War into Contemporary Culture and Politics.
- Bernhard Wieser (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Public Understanding of Genetic Engineering.

2001/2002

- Radostina Angelova (Bulgaria, Guest Lecturer): Analysis of Students' Attitudes toward Technology Studies.
- Daniele Bourcier (France, Guest Lecturer): Brief Presentation of CNRS' Activities in ICT and Law.
- Ulrich Dolata (Germany, Guest Lecturer): Europeanization of Technology and Innovation Policies? Global Innovation: The Case of Biotechnology.
- Dmitri Efremenko (Russia, Visiting Scholar): Public Participation in the Environment and Technology Oriented Decision-Making. Theoretical and Institutional Aspects.
- Risto Eräsaari (Finland, Visiting Scholar): Orientation Crisis and the Political Project of Inclusion.
- Vitaly Gorokhov (Russia, Guest Lecturer): A New Dimension of Technology Assessment in the e-Society: A Russian Perspective on Technocratic Thinking.
- Vera Gouchtchina (Russia, Fellow): Gender-Work Relations and Axiology of Work in Cross-Cultural Perspective: A Contextual Approach.
- Marlene Hinterhofer (Austria, Associate Student): GMOs in Food. Possibilities and Limitations of Detection Methods.

- Manfred Klade (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Incentives for a Dialogue on the Safety of Cosmetic Products.
- Shigeru Nakayama (Japan, Visiting Scholar): Third Paradigm of De-Developed Japan.
- Annette Ohme-Reinicke (Germany, Guest Lecturer): Horse-Whispering, Teamwork and Participation.
- Maria Rentetzi (Greece, Guest Lecturer): Feminist Epistemology: How a Case Study from History of Science Undermines Harding's Standpoint Theory.
- Gerd Schienstock (Finland, Fellow): Information Society, Work and New Forms of Social Exclusion.
- Sonja Schmid (Austria, Fellow): Transformations of Popular-Scientific Discourses on Nuclear Power in Soviet and Post-Soviet Print Media.
- Franz Seifert (Austria, Fellow): Biotechnology—The Public—Democracy. The Austrian Controversy on Biotechnology in the International Context.
- Christine Wächter (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Attracting Women into Engineering through Regional Technology Programmes.
- Doris Wallnöfer (Italy, Guest Lecturer): Mission Impossible or the So-Called War.
- Bernhard Wieser (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Beyond the Universal Subject of Cognition.

2002/2003

- Radostina Angelova (Bulgaria, Guest Lecturer): Beyond Students' Attitudes toward Technology Studies.
- Michalis Assimakopoulos (Greece, Guest Lecturer): Technological Determinism: A Theory about Society or a Theory about Technology?
- Ellen Balka (Canada, Guest Lecturer): Freezing Social Relations: The Role of Technology in Structuring Knowledge about Health.

- Gerald Berger (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Environmental Governance for Sustainable Regional Development: Reflections on the Issue of Power in Policy-Making.
- Ulrich Dolata (Germany, Guest Lecturer): Stubborn Actors, the Duality of Structure and the Distinctiveness of Technologies: About Case Studies and the World Outside.
- Risto Eräsaari (Finland, Guest Lecturer): Third Wave Expertise.
- Todor Galev (Bulgaria, Fellow): Dual Use Research: Between Engineering Technology and Social Networks.
- Ulrich Glotzbach (Germany, Fellow): Modelling Technology Rise and Shaping: Technological Style in Product Development.
- Don Ihde (USA, Guest Lecturer): Bodies in Technology.
- Adelina Ilieva (Bulgaria, Fellow): Ethics in the Regulatory Action: Social Shaping of Biotechnological Research.
- Sandra Karner (Austria, Guest Lecturer): The Assessment of Genetically Modified Food Safety.
- Ernst Kotzmann (Austria, Guest Lecturer): Machine—The Core of Technological Civilisation.
- Tatiana Leontieva (Russia, Guest Lecturer): Western Influence on the Process of Restructuring of the Science and Technology Sector in the Transition Economy of Russia in 1992–2002. Social Effects: Women's Perspective.
- Courtney Everts Mykityn (USA, Fellow): Anti-Aging Medicine and the Irrelevance of Being Natural.
- Gerd Schienstock (Finland, Visiting Scholar): Organizational Innovations.
- Olga Stoliarova (Russia, Fellow): Social Constructivism: An Ontological Turn (Analysis of Some Trends of Postmodern Philosophy and Sociology of Science by the Example of 'Symmetries').
- Ivan Tchalakov (Bulgaria, Visiting Scholar): Humanism Towards the Fellow Non-Human.

Results of the research undertaken by these former Fellows, Visiting Scholars and Guest Lecturers during their stay at IAS-STs can be found in the previous IAS-STs Yearbooks for 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

Information

For further information or a subscription to the IAS-STs Yearbooks please visit our website: www.sts.tugraz.at; or contact us: Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society (IAS-STs), Kopernikusgasse 9, 8010 Graz, Austria; phone: ++43/316/81 39 09-10, fax: ++43/316/81 26 61-11, email: info@sts.tugraz.at.

The general concept of IAS-STs was published in the IAS-STs Yearbook 2001, which is now also available online: www.ifz.tugraz.at/index_en.php/yearbook01.

*Günter Getzinger and Bernhard Wieser
Graz, June 2005*