
Review 2006/2007—A Report on Fellowships and Events

During the term 2006/2007 the Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society (IAS-STs) in Graz was again a place for numerous scholars to undertake their research—mainly dissertations, habilitations and post-doc research—in an interdisciplinary atmosphere, and for a lot of events, dedicated to defend and discuss results with colleagues or to present them to the public.

Research Fellows of 2006/2007

Out of about 60 applicants the Scientific Advisory Board of IAS-STs chose the following scholars in a meeting on 3 April 2006. They were appointed Research Fellows (partly with grants provided by the IAS-STs, Ernst Mach programme, Lise Meitner programme, North-South-Dialogue programme, or grants provided by the Fellows' home countries) by the Director of IAS-STs Prof Arno Bammé (University of Klagenfurt, Department of Science and Technology Studies). Members of the Board are Prof Elisabeth List as representative of the Karl-Franzens-University Graz, Prof Hartmut Kahlert as representative of Graz University of Technology and Dr Harald Rohrer as representative of the IFZ—Inter-University Research Centre for Technology, Work and Culture, which is the Graz unit of the Department of Science and Technology Studies, Klagenfurt University. Prof Arno Bammé chairs the Board and Dr Bernhard Wieser, IFZ, is responsible for its executive management.

- (1) Dana Abi Ghanem, United Kingdom / Lebanon: Urban Sustainability and Renewable Energy Technologies: How Users Matter
- (2) Corinna Bath, Austria / Germany (Ernst Mach grant): Gender Studies in Computer Science: Towards a De-Gendered Design of Computational Artefacts

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- (3) Nicoleta Chioncel, Romania: Women's Interest and Activism in Science and Engineering vs. Teaching Science and Technology
- (4) Christina Dunbar-Hester, USA (Ernst Mach grant): "Radio for whom?" Media Activism, Identity, and the (Re)Imagination of FM Radio Technology in the U.S.
- (5) Anne-Francoise Gilbert, Switzerland: Gender and Engineering Cultures in Academia: The Case of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science
- (6) Steffen Koch, Germany (Ernst Mach grant): Water and Waste Water Infrastructures—Technological Changes & Socio-Technical Perspective
- (7) Kyra Landzelius, Sweden / USA (Lise Meitner Grant): Technology and Personhood: Neonatal Medicine and New Ways of Coming into Being
- (8) Les Levidow, United Kingdom: WTO Agbiotech Dispute: Transnational Regulation as a Legitimacy Problem
- (9) Dora Marinova, Australia: Sustainable Technology Design
- (10) David Mercer, Australia: Science Policy Formation in Austria and Europe—Case Studies
- (11) Anup Sam Ninan, India (North-South Dialogue Programme grant): Rural Innovations: Technology Systems and Sustainability—Emerging Issues
- (12) Huei-Chih Niu, Taiwan: Right and Duty in Genome Medicine. A Regulatory Approach for Individual Autonomy, Risks and Social Justice in Human Subject Research
- (13) Tanja Paulitz, Germany (Lise Meitner grant): Gender in Engineering Design. Continuities and Transformations in Theories and Textbooks in Engineering
- (14) Tess Pierce, USA: Online Gender and Power: A Rhetorical Comparative Analysis of the Visual and Discursive Metaphors on the Green Party USA and EuroGreen Websites
- (15) Kadri Simm, Estonia (Ernst Mach grant): Genetics and Public Health—Dissecting the Politics and the Science Behind, Around, and Beyond Population Genetic Databases

- (16) Aleksandra Stupar, Republic of Serbia: Shaping the Image of Globalization: The Role of Technology in Urban Regeneration
- (17) Sakari Tamminen, Finland: Calculating Life: Nature and Nationhood in National Gene Resources Programmes
- (18) Ivan Hristov Tchalakov, Bulgaria: The Everyday Practice in the Research Laboratory: The Tension Between 'Causal Actions' and 'Existential Action' of the Human Agents—Some Possible Lessons from the Byzantine Interpretation of Aristotle's Theory of Action
- (19) Isabel Zorn, Germany (Ernst Mach grant): Education by IT Construction: The Activity of Constructing Information and Communication Technology and its Potential for Evoking New Views on the Interrelations of Self, Technology and World

Public Lectures

In 2006/07 three Guest Lecturers and Visiting Scholars gave public lectures, some more contributed to the IAS-STS Conference and participated in workshops to give presentations and/or comments on the talks of the Fellows. Public Lectures are designed to present issues of broader interest to the public:

15 January 2007

Les Levidow, United Kingdom

WTO Agbiotech Dispute: Transnational Regulation as a Legitimacy Problem

22 January 2007

Tess Pierce, USA

Online Gender and Power: A Rhetorical Comparative Analysis of the Visual and Discursive Metaphors on the Green Party USA and Euro-Green Websites

2 March 2007

Les Levidow, United Kingdom

Coexistence or Contradiction? GM Crops versus Alternative Agricultures in Europe

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31 May 2007

Gabriele Dietze, Germany

Digitally Re-Mastered—The (Re)Construction of “Beauty” in the Digital Image

Conference

The 6th Annual IAS-STTS Conference: “Critical Issues in Science and Technology Studies”, also meant to be the alumni-meeting, took place 24 – 25 May 2007 in Graz.

Programme

Thursday, 24 May 2007

Welcome Address:

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

- Panel Session 1: *Towards Gender Equality in Engineering / Women in Science: The Case of Eastern Europe*
- Panel Session 2: *The Perception of Technology / Infrastructure Transformation and Policy / Trans-Disciplinary Research*
- Panel Session 3: *E-Government / New and Old Media Shaping Society / Designing ICT*
- Panel Session 4: *Biobanks and Governance of Biocapital / Individual Perspectives / Policy Perspectives*

Keynote on Theme 1:

Tanja Paulitz, Germany: Controversies about the Contradiction between “Natural” and “Artificial” in Historic Debates in Mechanical Engineering

Session 1: Towards Gender Equality in Engineering

Chair: Isabel Zorn, Germany

- Anne-Francoise Gilbert, Switzerland: Disciplinary Cultures in Mechanical Engineering and Material Sciences: De/Gendering Practices?

- Natalie Sappleton, United Kingdom: Organisational Culture of NW Engineering Workplaces: The Influence of Women Engineers
- Anita Thaler, Austria: Gender-Knowledge in Engineering
- Christine Wächter, Austria: “Language is a Virus”—How Words, Concepts and Images (De)Construct Engineering as a Male Domain

Session 1: Women in Science: The Case of Eastern Europe

Chair: Anita Thaler, Austria

- Nicoleta Chioncel, Romania: Exploring Engineering Students Identities
- Tatiana Leontieva: Personal Experience: How it is to be a Woman Scientist in Russia

Session 2: The Perception of Technology

Chair: Jürgen Suschek-Berger

- Anup Sam Ninan, India: Gandhi: Sustainability and Technology as Ideas of Political Practice
- Olga Stoliarova, Russia: A “White Coat Syndrome”: Is it Objective or Subjective?
- Ivan Hristov Tchalakov, Bulgaria: Falcon 1: Ford T of Space Launchers
- Gyula Kasza, Hungary: Borderlines between Food Safety Crisis and Scandals: Experiences of a Pilot Study

Session 2: Infrastructure Transformation and Policy

Chair: Philipp Späth, Austria

- Anna Schreuer, Austria: Open Innovation—User Involvement in the Development of Environmental Technologies
- Steffen Koch, Germany: Debating the “Anthropogenic Water Cycle”—the Destination of Rain Water
- Aleksandra Stupar, Republic of Serbia: Expressing the Power of Technology: Urban Challenge, Global Fashion or Imperative of Sustainability

Session 3: E-Government

Chair: Matthias Werner

- Todor Galev, Bulgaria: Policy and Solidarity in Internet: eInclusion Measures in Online Policy Services in Bulgaria

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Keynote on Theme 2:

Ulrich Dolata, Germany: Technology and Sectoral Change—The Transformative Capacity of New Technologies and the Adaptability of Sectoral Governance Structures

Friday, 25 May 2007

Keynote on Theme 4:

Les Levidow, United Kingdom: European Public Participation in Agbiotech Assessment: Performing and Challenging Lay / Expert Boundaries

Session 4: Biobanks and Governance of Biocapital

Chair: Bernhard Wieser, Austria

- Huei-Chih Niu, Taiwan: Trust as Fundamental Element to Manage the Potential Social Risks of Human Biobanks
- Kadri Simm, Estonia: Governing the Estonian Genome Project
- Sakari Tamminen, Finland: Calculating Life: The Emergence of Biocapital in Finnish Genetic Resources Programmes

Session 4: Individual Perspectives

Chair: Armin Spök, Austria

- Bernhard Wieser, Austria: Politics without People: On Macro and Micro Perspectives in ELSA Research
- Daniela Freitag, Austria: “It’s not about me but about my family”—Genetic Knowledge as a Familial Problem
- Sandra Karner, Austria: Public Engagement in Genomic Research

Session 4: Policy Perspectives

Chair: Sandra Karner, Austria

- Marko Ahteensuu and Helena Siipi, Finland: Ethics of Public Engagement in Biotechnology
- Franz Seifert, Austria: Defensive NIMBYs—Contentious NIAMBYs. Farmers Protesting GMO in Austria and France
- Bettina Bock von Wülfigen, Germany: Genetic Infertility and the Sexes

Session 2: Trans-Disciplinary Research

Chair: Anna Schreuer, Austria

- Franc Mali, Slovenia: Turning Science into Transdisciplinarity—Some Issues of Cross-Disciplinary Cooperation at Research Centres of Excellence
- Günter Getzinger, Austria: Transdisciplinarity and Sustainable Technology Design

Session 3: New and Old Media Shaping Society

Chair: Oana Mitrea, Austria / Romania

- Kyra Landzelius, Sweden / USA: Dissecting the Body Prosthetic: Incubator Anatomy in the Theatre of Virtuality
- Christina Dunbar-Hester, USA: “Radio for Whom?”—Theorizing Media Activism as Social Construction of Technology
- David Mercer, Australia: “History Calling?": Historiography and “New Media”

Session 3: Designing ICT

Chair: Günter Getzinger, Austria

- Corinna Bath, Germany / Austria: Towards a De-Gendered Design of Information Technologies
- Matthias Werner, Austria: Usability vs. Functionality? Mobile Broadband Technologies and User Agency
- Oana Mitrea, Austria / Romania: ICT Sustainability Visions and their Underlying Triggers in Technology Construction
- Isabel Zorn, Germany: IT-Construction as Media Magic: “Lay” Designers’ Experiences and Perspectives on IT Construction and its Impact on their Lives

Keynote on Theme 3:

Johannes Weyer, Germany: Modes of Governance of Hybrid Systems—The Mid-Air Collision at Ueberlingen and the Impact of Smart Technology

For the proceedings of this IAS-STs Conference 2007 please visit:

http://www.ifz.tugraz.at/index_en.php/article/articleview/1466/1/58

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Workshops

Two Work-in-Progress Workshops and bi-weekly Fellow Meetings to give the Research Fellows opportunities for the presentation and discussion of their research outcome took place during the term 2006/2007.

Work-in-Progress Workshop, 23 November 2006

- Tanja Paulitz, Germany: Gender in Engineering Design. Continuities and Transformations in the Conceptions of Mechanical Engineering
- Isabel Zorn, Germany: IT-Construction as Media Magic: “Lay” Designers’ Experiences and Perspectives on IT-Construction and Its Impact on Their Lives
- Corinna Bath, Austria / Germany: Bringing in the Social: A Strategy to De-Gender the Computer Science Discipline?
- Christina Dunbar-Hester, USA: Low Power to the People: FM Radio Activism in the U.S.
- Nicoleta Elena Chioncel, Romania: Female Students’ Assessment of the Curriculum and Career Guidance
- Kyra Landzelius, Sweden / USA: The Preterm Baby as Modernist Project: The Genealogy of an Uncanny Patient
- Steffen Koch, Germany: What Do I Want to Obtain from Case Studies?
- Dana Abi Ghanem, United Kingdom / Lebanon: Urban Sustainability and Photovoltaic Energy Technology: Shedding Light on the Role of Users
- Dora Marinova, Australia: Sustainability Research

Work-in-Progress Workshop, 22 March 2007

- Steffen Koch, Germany: Debating the Anthropogenic Water Cycle—The Destination of Rain Water
- Anup Sam Ninan, India: Science, Technology and Development—Making of a Post-Colonial Nation

- Christina Dunbar-Hester, USA: Activist Encounters with New (and Old) Media Technology
- Kadri Simm, Estonia: Governing the Estonian Genome Project
- Isabel Zorn, Germany: Lay IT Designers Orientation Frames of Speaking about their Design Experience—Insights into the Interview Analysis
- Corinna Bath, Austria / Germany: What does “De-Gendering of Technologies” Mean? Searching for a Common Theoretical Ground
- Tanja Paulitz, Germany: Controversies About the Distinction Between the “Natural” and the “Artificial” in Historic Debates in Mechanical Engineering

For further information on these workshops please visit:

http://www.ifz.tugraz.at/index_en.php/article/articleview/191/1/61/

Alumni

119 Research Fellows (fellowships up to 12 months, partly with grants, Visiting Scholars (fellowships up to one month, without grant) and Guest Lecturers from 29 countries have contributed to the scholarly life at IAS-STS since 1999.

For a complete list of IAS-STS Alumni, please visit:

http://www.ifz.tugraz.at/index_en.php/article/articleview/182/1/69

Results of the research undertaken by these former Research Fellows, Visiting Scholars and Guest Lecturers during their stays at the IAS-STS can be found in the previous IAS-STS Yearbooks (starting 2001) or in previous issues of SOZIALE TECHNIK, IFZ's journal (visit:

http://www.ifz.tugraz.at/index_en.php/article/articleview/193/1/58

and

<http://www.ifz.tugraz.at/index.php/article/articleview/40/1/32>.

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Information

For further information or for subscription of IAS-STS Yearbooks please visit our website: www.sts.tugraz.at. The Yearbooks 2001 to 2006 can be found there online.

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The general concept of IAS-STS was published in the IAS-STS Yearbook 2001: www.ifz.tugraz.at/index_en.php/article/articleview/768/1/58

Günter Getzinger and Bernhard Wieser
Graz, April 2009