
Foreword

Two years ago we established the Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society in Graz, and now I am proud to present the first yearbook of this institute. The yearbook is a record of the achievements of seven young scientists in the year 2000 and 2001 who have succeeded in lending this institute an identity of its own within the course of just a few months. This identity stands for research in a creative atmosphere of communication and co-operation and comes as a result of independent research combined with respect for the co-fellows' work. Within this short period of time this institute seems to have brought the theoretical concept to life and has turned into a dynamic and productive centre of interdisciplinary science and technology research. I am convinced that the Fellowships at the Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society could serve as an important contribution to the Fellows' scientific progress and helped to forge long-lasting bonds to the research community in Graz and the Province of Styria.

The establishment of the Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society would not have been possible without the generous assistance of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, the Styrian Government and the City of Graz. We especially wish to thank all the decision-makers who gave their support to this project. It is owing to their help that Graz and Styria were able to put themselves on the international map of science and technology research.

My special thanks go to the Karl-Franzens-University and the Technical University of Graz and to their representatives on the Scientific Advisory Board, Prof. Elisabeth List and Prof. Hartmut Kahlert, who promoted the institute in many ways. I also extend my thanks to the institute's staff, Günter Getzinger, Bernhard

Wieser and Reinhard Wächter, whose commitment to this institution and to the Fellows is of inestimable value.

And finally I would like to thank the first seven Fellows of the Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society for breathing life into this institution.

Prof. Arno Bammé

*Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies on Science, Technology and Society
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