

political opinions and our opposition to the xenophobia and racism that have found public expression in your country. We hope that our opposition will help inspire scholars and citizens in other countries to take firm positions against similar tendencies in their societies.

We the undersigned members of EASST, 4S and participants in this conference urge you to use your authority to stop the abuse of the Austrian legal and political systems for the suppression of politically sensitive speech, ideas and opinions.

Respectfully,
Prof. Dr. Sheila Jasanoff (Harvard University),
Dr. Rob Hagendijk (University of Amsterdam)
Univ. Prof. Dr. Ulrike Felt (University of Vienna)

Vienna, September 27, 2000

This letter to the President was joined by 220 other signers at the 4S/EASST Conference in Vienna. President Thomas Klestil sent a letter back to Ulrike Felt on 18 October, in which he notably declared:

' I can assure you that, within my possibilities, I will do everything to protect the fundamental values of freedom of expression and democracy from attacks and abuse. I have made this clear during the past weeks in countless talks and also in public, and I will also come back to this in my address on television on the National holiday.'

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Frontpage illustration:

The 1995 film *Hackers*, directed by Iain Softley and starring Jonny Lee Miller and Angelina Jolie. The key Cyberspace representation in the film was the "City of Text" dataspace. This was visualised as a Gibsonian urban landscape of skyscrapers of pulsing information and computer circuitry, as shown by the image below. It was created by Artem Visual Effects, based in London.

Source: <http://www.geog.ucl.ac.uk/casa/martin/atlas/atlas.html>

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A Field Matures: Cyberculture Studies at the Turn of the Century

by David Silver
Georgetown University

**Review of Internet Research 1.0: The State of
the Interdiscipline First Conference of the
Association of Internet Researchers University
of Kansas, September, 2000**

Ten years ago, the first Conference in Cyberspace
took place at the University of Texas at Austin.
According to most accounts, the conference was
invite-only and attracted some of the best minds
around, including Michael Heim, Chip
Morningstar, Marcos Novak, and Allucquere
Rosanne (aka SandyStone). A year later, the ideas
crept to the rest of us, in the form of the
appropriately entitled Cyberspace: First Steps
(MIT, 1991), edited by Michael Benedikt.

Throughout the last decade, many more steps
have been taken. While Howard Rheingold's *The
Virtual Community* (Addison-Wesley, 1993)
examined communities in cyberspace, Sherry
Turkle's *Life on the Screen* (Simon & Schuster,
1995), along with the work of Amy Bruckman,
Elizabeth Reid, and Stone, explored the formation
of identities within online environments. By the
mid-1990s, the first steps of an emerging field of
study upgraded to a brisk jog. Under the altering
guise of cyberculture studies or computer-
mediated communication or Internet studies or
social informatics, the field blossomed with books
like *CyberSociety* (Sage, 1995) and *Virtual
Culture* (Sage, 1997) edited by Steve Jones,
Internet Culture (Routledge, 1997) edited by
David Porter, and *Network & Netplay* (MIT,
1998) edited by Fay Sudweeks, Margaret
McLaughlin, and Sheizaf Rafaeli. As the true
millennium approaches, the brisk jog has become
a modest marathon, as reflected in book length
case studies like Nancy Baym's *Tune In, Log On*
(Sage, 2000), Paulina Borsook's *Cyberselfish*
(Public Affairs, 2000), Lynn Cherny's
Conversation and Community (Center for the
Study of Language and Social Information
Publications, 1999), and Christine Hine's *Virtual
Ethnography* (Sage, 2000), as well as critical
subfields within the interdiscipline, including

Race in Cyberspace (Routledge, 2000) edited by
Beth Kolko, Lisa Nakamura, and Gilbert Rodman,
CyberFeminism (Spinifex Press, 1999), and
CyberSexualities (Edinburgh University Press,
2000) edited by Jenny Wolmark.

Yet perhaps the most lasting and far-reaching
development was the formation of the Association
for Internet Researchers (<http://aoir.org/>).
Originally conceived by Greg Elmer (Boston
College), Steve Jones (University of Illinois,
Chicago), and Stefan Wray (NYU) in the midst of
the World Wide Web and Contemporary Cultural
Theory conference organized by Andrew Herman
and Thomas Swiss and held at Drake University
in November, 1998, the Association of Internet
Researchers, or A(o)IR, is a concerted attempt to
foster an *international* and *interdisciplinary*
community of scholars studying, teaching, and
creating diverse forms of cyberculture. Enjoying
an online existence for nearly two years, the
members of A(o)IR came together face to face for
the first time at the University of Kansas in
September for its first annual conference: *Internet
Research 1.0: The State of the Interdiscipline*
(<http://www.cddc.vt.edu/aoir/>). Organized by
Conference Coordinator Nancy Baym (University
of Kansas) and Program Chair Jeremy Hunsinger
(Virginia Tech) with the help of Steve Jones and
countless others, the conference was nothing less
than a monumental and (dare I say?) historic
success.

If A(o)IR's purpose is to foster an international
and interdisciplinary community of scholars, the
goal was met. Although held in the United States,
conference attendees came from over twenty
countries, including Australia, Brazil, Canada,
Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Holland,
Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the
Netherlands, Norway, Serbia, Singapore, Spain,
Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK. Similarly,
reflecting the interdisciplinarity of the field itself,
conference attendees represented over two dozen
disciplines, including: advertising; American
studies; anthropology; business; communication;

communication, culture, and technology; cultural studies; computer science; economics; education; English; film studies; history; law; library and information science; linguistics; marketing; media ecology; media studies; philosophy; political science; public health; science, technology, and society; social informatics; sociology; and women's studies. Finally, and perhaps most refreshingly, with the exception of the keynotes, panels contained a rich spectrum of generations, ranging from first year graduate students and grizzled ABDs to junior and senior (and an emeritus or two!) professors. Combined with the international and interdisciplinary nature of the conference, the intergenerational composition added a triple shot of energy, creativity, and experimentation.

a field matures

In some ways, the conference represented a research agenda for and coming attractions of what might be called the third stage of cyberculture studies. As I have noted elsewhere, the first stage, popular cyberculture, was marked by its journalistic origins and characterized by its descriptive nature, limited dualism, and use of the Internet-as-frontier discourse. The second stage, cyberculture studies, focused largely on virtual communities and online identities and developed contoured textures from an influx of scholars from across the disciplines. While the twin pillars of second stage cyberculture studies continue to be rich sites for contemporary scholarship, the most recent stage of scholarship, critical cyberculture studies, approaches online communities and identities within and with respect to the multiple contexts surrounding and informing them. These contexts include but are not limited to the cultural histories of other new and once-new communication technologies, social and economic barriers to online landscapes, the varied and diverse kinds of technological environments that make online interactions possible, and discourses of cyberspace found in popular media, commercial advertising, political rhetoric, and everyday life. Accompanying this more holistic approach to cyberculture is an interdisciplinary and self-reflexive set of methods and methodologies.

Reflecting the field's maturation were sixty-six panels, roundtables, of subfields. Psychology in/and the Internet was a hot topic, and discussed in panels like "Psychology and Relationships" moderated by Nils Zurawski (University of

Muenster), "Subjectivity, Cyberspace, and the Social" moderated by Jeremy Hunsinger, and "Online Relationships, Personal and Professional" moderated by Andrea Baker (Ohio University). Issues of identity were also addressed in "Identity and the Dynamics of Interaction within Online Media," a panel featuring Hannes Hogni Vilhjalmsson (MIT) and Joshua Berman & Amy Bruckman (Georgia Institute of Technology), who showcased the inspiring Turing Game.

Another popular topic was the intersections between globalization, communication technologies, and democracy. A ton of folks showed up early in the morning to attend a panel entitled "When Voters are Users," featuring a collection of interesting presentations from R. Kirkland Ahern, Kirsten Foot, W. Russell Neuman, Steve Schneider, Ilyse Stempler, and Jennifer Stromer-Galley, all from the University of Pennsylvania. Other relevant panels included "Global Internet Initiatives: Case Studies" moderated by Bram Dov Abramson (Telegeography), "Theories of Globalization" moderated by Liza Tsaliki (University of Nijmegen, NL), "Global Politics" moderated by Christiana Frietas, and "Internet and Democratization."

Related panels addressed issues of hegemony and resistance. "Digital Resistances," moderated by Lauren Langman (Loyola University of Chicago) featured papers exploring various sites of online resistance, including alternative Web sites in Singapore (K.C. Ho and Zaheer Baber, National University of Singapore), "Zapatismo: The Electronic Web of Third World Solidarity" (Fred Avalos-C' de Baca, California State University, San Marcos), fringe groups and collective action (S. Lee & H. Sawhney, Indiana University), and recent online activity in Belgrade (Smiljana Antonijevic, University of Belgrade). Creative activity, gender (mis)representation, and cyberfeminism came together in the panel "Women on the Internet," moderated by Anne Daugherty (University of Kansas) and featuring the research of Kate O'Riordan (University of Brighton), Susanna Paasonen (University of Turku), and Mia Consalvo (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee). Although issues of gender and class were addressed within many panels, issues of race and sexuality were, for this conference attendee, hard to find.

Another subfield garnering plenty of attention was online (and hypertextual) pedagogies. Panels included "Pedagogy" moderated by Gretchen

Schoel (College of William and Mary/Keio University), "Pedagogy -- In Practice" moderated by Shawn Wahl (University of Nebraska), "Pedagogy -- Philosophy" moderated by Susan Lazinger (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem), and "Writing on the Web, Electronic Literature, and Linguistics" moderated by Len Hatfield (Virginia Tech), who, along with Tim Luke, organized the "Learning 2000: Reassessing the Virtual University" (<http://www.cddc.vt.edu/learning>) conference in late September at Virginia Tech. A roundtable discussion entitled "I've Got a Little List," featured the findings, frustrations, and epiphanies of a number of heavily-trafficked mailing list moderators, including the indefatigable Joan Korenman (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Patrick Leary, Michele Ollivier (Universite d'Ottawa), Wendy Robbins (University of New Brunswick), and the suspended Gil Rodman (University of South Florida).

Still other panels were devoted to visual design -- "Design" moderated by Jean Trumbo (University of Wisconsin-Madison) and "Interfaces and Communication Strategies" moderated by Harmeet Sawheny (Indiana University) -- discourse -- "Mediating New Media," "Open Source," and "Metaphors for the Internet" moderated by Elissa Fineman (University of Texas at Austin) -- and community networks, including the two and a half hour, live Access Grid-broadcast panel "Investigating Community Networks," moderated by Nick Jankowski (University of Nijmegen, NL) and featuring the findings of Teresa M. Harrison, James P. Zappen, and Christina Prell (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), Lawrence Hecht (Internet Public Policy Network), Jankowski, Martine van Selm, and Ed Hollander (University of Nijmegen), Joyce Lamerichs (Wageningen University and Research Center), and myself (University of Maryland/Georgetown University).

Perhaps the surest sign of the field's maturation was found in the many engaging panels on research methods and ethics. In addition to "Ethics and Internet Research," a panel moderated by Charles Ess (Drury University), there was the "Internet Research Ethics Roundtable," which featured a number of speakers, including Philip Howard (Northwestern University and Pew Internet and American Life Project), David Snowball (Augustana College), Storm King (International Society for Mental Health Online),

Sarina Chen (University of Northern Iowa), Sanyin Siang (American Association for the Advancement of Science), Steve Jones (University of Illinois, Chicago), and Rob Kling (Indiana University). Another outstanding panel was "Methods: Gaining Inside Perspectives," moderated by Ken Harwood (University of Houston). Representing various disciplinary positions, the panelists discussed a number of useful research methods for the study of cyberspace: Daniel Marschall (Georgetown University) and Christine Hine (Brunel University) discussed the merits of ethnography (both on- and off-line), Russell Clark (GE Corporate Research and Development) and Joe Downing (Western Kentucky University) examined anonymous Web sampling, and Christian Sandvig and Emily Murase (Stanford University) offered an original method of unobtrusive observation of network data.

Interspersed throughout the conference were five keynote addresses featuring senior scholars from across the disciplines: Barry Wellman (Sociology, University of Toronto) discussed his and his students' work on social networks; Helen Nissenbaum (Center for Human Values at Princeton University) explored issues of trust online; Rob Kling (Information Systems and Information Science, Indiana University at Bloomington) examined online social behavior from a social informatics perspective; Susan Herring (Information Systems and Information Science, Indiana University at Bloomington) offered methods of computer-mediated discourse analysis; and Manuel Castells (Sociology, University of California, Berkeley) addressed, well, *everything*, offering one of the most comprehensive overviews of the Net and contemporary culture and society. (Select keynotes and other presentations will be available as Web video on demand through the Apple Learning Interchange around the start of October. Stay tuned to the A(o)IR Web site for details.)

jumpstarting a community

While the conference showcased a maturing field of study, it also helped to foster and nurture a diverse and thriving community. As mentioned earlier the sprawling community came together on paper (and in pixels) with the formation of the Association of Internet Researchers, organized tirelessly by Steve Jones. For the last year, the association's mailing list, air-l, has maintained a fair amount of dialogues and other conferences --

including last spring's "Shaping the Network Society: The Future of the Public Sphere in Cyberspace," sponsored by Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility, and last winter's "Virtual Methodology" conference, organized by Christine Hine -- have brought many of us together. In addition to the list, conference attendees had access to download many, but not nearly all, of the papers before arriving in Kansas.

A common thread heard throughout the conference was that attendees had found an academic home to call their own. Many of the participants recounted frustrating tales of academic marginalization - at conferences, with journals, within departments - and found themselves comfortable among the interdisciplinary or, perhaps, transdisciplinary atmosphere. Subsequently, an elevated collective knowledge was taken advantage of: unlike many papers presented at more traditional conferences, presenters skipped the obligatory ten minutes of explaining terms and quickly got to the beef.

In order to provide a space within which attendees could continue discussions raised in panels, conference organizers set up a large public area on site. Stocked with a buffet of free goodies that made this poor, hungry grad student dizzy, attendees gathered to talk, meet online acquaintances face to face, network, and share works in progress. It was here that we also heard about research being conducted by conference attendees who did not present papers, including Annice Kim's (University of North Carolina School of Public Health at Chapel Hill) work on content analysis of tobacco Web sites and Gretchen Schoel's (College of William and Mary/Keio University) research on crosscultural uses of the Net by Americans and Japanese. And with help from Apple Computer, nearly two dozen sleek laptops (with wireless Internet connections no less!) were set up for folks to check their email and make last minute adjustments to their Powerpoint presentations.

Off site, the community continued. Each evening, conference attendees swarmed downtown Lawrence, taking over bars, filling long and loud restaurant tables, and packing the local mom and pop ice cream shop. Much of this was a product of an interesting collection of scholars, the rest a product of Conference Coordinator Nancy Baym and Program Chair Jeremy Hunsinger.

see you in Minnesota

Perhaps the most exciting news came during the conference's last session, the General Business Meeting. Having made it past 1.0, 2.0 was announced. John Logie, assistant professor in the Department of Rhetoric at the University of Minnesota, invited attendees to the Minneapolis/St. Paul area for the Second Annual Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers sometime during fall 2001. Further, within AIR, two task groups - the Task-Force on Ethical Online Research (headed by Amy Bruckman, Sarina Chen, and Sanyin Siang) and the Web Page Working Group (headed by Kristin Foot, Jennifer Stromer-Galley, Leslie Tkach (University of Tsukuba), and myself) - were established and promise to surface in Minnesota. Finally, A(o)IR Interim Treasurer Wesley Shrum announced that a new academic journal, The Journal of Internet Research, is in the planning stages and conversations with presses have begun.

Earlier in the summer, a interesting thread took place on air-1 regarding the state of Internet studies. While some folks argued for the creation of a new discipline (Internet Studies? Cyberculture Studies?), others were less enthusiastic, pointing towards the field's infancy as well as lack of developed methods and theories. In many ways, the Internet Research 1.0 conference confirmed such views. For while scholars continue to explore the digital domain in new and exciting ways, some of the best scholarship is performed with traditional methods and from within traditional disciplines. Perhaps the ultimate lesson learned from the conference is this: In order to keep things fresh, interesting, and relevant, we must continue approaching our topic from an international and interdisciplinary perspective.

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Dissertation Abstract

P.P. Verbeek, *De daadkracht der dingen – over techniek, filosofie en vormgeving*. Amsterdam: Boom, 2000 (ISBN 90 5352 630 7) Doctoral thesis, University of Twente, the Netherlands. (The Acts of Artifacts - technology, philosophy, design)

What role do artifacts play in our technological culture? Our society is flooded with devices: television sets, cars, microwave ovens, cellular phones. How are all these things affecting us?

Classical philosophy of technology gave a very gloomy answer to this question: technology alienates humans from themselves and from their world. The technological way of thinking would only allow people to approach reality as raw material, and the functionalist outfitting of society would impede people's ability to exist as unique persons. A close analysis of Karl Jaspers' and Martin Heidegger's philosophy of technology, however, shows that this critique is not adequate anymore. They approach technology in a transcendentalist way, reducing devices to the conditions of their possibility. The resulting diagnosis of alienation does not reflect the actual condition of our technological culture.

Against this classical transcendentalism, an approach is developed that does not reduce technological artifacts to their conditions, but tries to understand the role they concretely play in people's everyday lives. The 'philosophy from things', which is required for this, can be developed along (post)phenomenological lines. Things mediate the relationships between humans and their world. They actively co-shape how people can be present in their world (existentially) and how reality can be present for people (hermeneutically). In doing so, they invite specific actions and experiences, and discourage others. The analysis of this mediating role of technological artifacts is developed by critically discussing the work of Don Ihde on human-technology relationships, of Bruno Latour on humans and nonhumans, and of Albert Borgmann on technological devices and focal things.

This 'philosophy of technological artifacts', finally, is applied to the context of industrial design. Within design, products are usually approached in terms of their functionality and their style. They should work, and fit the lifestyle of the people that are to buy them. These

approaches, however, pay too little attention to technical mediation. Since artifacts influence people's everyday lives in many ways, designers could anticipate this influence in a responsible way.

News from the Association

EASST 2002

Council has agreed that the next EASST conference in 2002 should be held at the University of York, UK, hosted by the Department of Sociology and SATSU (Science & Technology Studies Unit) based there. Early notice of the event is given here to allow for your forward planning, as the date is slightly earlier in the year than usual.

The date of the conference will be July 31-August 3, 2002

The conference Theme will be announced via the next Review, EASST website and SATSU Web page (www.york.ac.uk/org/satsu/)

Perceptions of Science

by André Heck

Strasbourg Astronomical Observatory

As a fresh EASST member, I attended the recent Vienna 4S/EASST Conference on 'Worlds in Transition'. Here are a couple of recurrently observed pitfalls from otherwise generally quite interesting sessions at a well-organized and dense conference.

science and technology are not monolithic
Sociological studies are not rarely involving surveys on the perception of science (and/or technology) by layers of the society or even by the society at large. Science is however frequently presented as a kind of monolithic entity, which it is not, and therefore the corresponding survey results might be seriously polluted or at least might be blending a number of secondary effects. Thus there is a real danger significantly wrong conclusions be derived, not only by the surveyors themselves, but also by the subsequent users of the survey, for instance science policy makers and deciders.

Running a survey on science in general is roughly equivalent to enquire about transportation in general. And we do know there are some differences between a bicycle and a jumbo jet or a cruise ship. And those differences are not only effective at the level of the transportation means themselves, but also relevant to the context of specific travels, to the destinations aimed at, and so on. And the differences between scientific disciplines are as varied as between the transportation means above, even if all of them aim at the progress of knowledge.

Part of the problem might arise from the fact that the involved (teams of) sociologists are lacking expertise or enough insight into various fields of science and their respective potential perception (see also below). In any case, we would urge *anyone* enquiring about the perception of science or of scientific issues to record and to state the context in which the survey has been made (the landing of Man on the Moon, the AIDS scandal, the 'Dolly affair' or whatever).

Even better, each surveyee should be asked about his/her perception of 'science', in the sense of what is that person thinking of when asked about science in general. It is obvious that some

mediatic hype about a specific scientific event might seriously affect the global public perception of science nationally or internationally. For instance, the GMO debate has masked, for a significant number of people, the far-reaching consequences by the completion of the genome project while physics and space sciences remained basically unconcerned by those issues.

In conclusion, when speaking of science in general, the variety of science, the context of the time and the individual perceptions must be taken into account. Hasty generalizations should be avoided in the light of the complexity and nuances of the actual situation.

perverse perceptions

Astronomy and space sciences are interesting fields to investigate public perception. Astronomy has penetrated society remarkably well with an extensive network of associations and organizations of aficionados all over the world. Some of them are well equipped for observing the skies and occasionally become involved with professional research. The deep human need to understand the universe has also led organizations and governments to set up public observatories and planetariums that fulfill academic requirements as well as public educational and cultural interests.

The distinction between professional and amateur astronomers is generally made nowadays on the basis that the former ones are making a living out of their astronomy-related activities, being paid by some official organization, carrying out some research or participating to some project linked to the advancement of knowledge. Amateur astronomers are themselves classified in two categories: the active and the armchair amateur astronomers. While the latter ones have generally a passive interest in astronomy (reading magazines, attending lectures, and so on), the former ones carry out some observing, often with their own instruments, and such activities can be useful to professional astronomy.

Many amateur astronomers have however a poor knowledge of how exactly professional astronomy is carried out and what are the requirements on the

professional astronomers themselves. (This is also the case for many potential students in astronomy.) For good amateur astronomers, the 'nec plus ultra' of the achievements would be to know all the major stars, the constellations and the visible planets in their share of the sky; and they would expect at least the same from professional astronomers.

Not at all. Many professional astronomers do not know anything about the nightly sky patterns because they conduct theoretical investigations. And those who do carry out observations do not need to be able to point the finger at their pet objects (most of these would be invisible for the unassisted eye anyway): professional observers simply need to know the coordinates of their targets and to enter them into the computers piloting the ground-based and space-borne telescopes.

If such a hiatus is already existing between professional astronomers and amateurs who are supposed to know something about science, one can imagine the breadth of the gap with the grand public. And this gap is again potentially larger for sciences with less impact on the society. What then can be said on the validity of public understanding of science? The solution here is education, not through hype and sensationalistic broadcasts or interviews, but through detailed and realistic lectures by patient and non-publicity-seeking experts.

The sports car effect

Car makers (and other manufacturers) know how important it is to have a luxury item in their line of products. Few people will buy it, but most purchasers of the standard items will get something of it, be it only through the image associated to the brand name -- somehow like dreaming (or getting the friends and colleagues dream) of an unaffordable expensive lover.

In that perspective, something interesting can also be pointed out, and involving again astronomy and space sciences. In reader surveys conducted by popular science magazines, subjects such as astronomy and space sciences received regularly the top rankings in terms of *interest*. Medicine, generally thought as being the primary subject of choice by the public, reaches lower scores.

The difference is that, when comes the time of distributing the pennies, the public opinion, and then the policy makers and politicians, go down to pragmatic issues, in line with the fact that -- after

the end of the Cold War and long after the landing of Man on the Moon -- the society at large has now other priorities (such as health, environment, security, unemployment) than space investigations or cosmological understanding. This is when and where the biosciences come first. And this is another reason why public surveys on science perception must be extremely carefully worded, analyzed, interpreted and put into the proper perspective.

Bibliography

Readers interested in several aspects mentioned here in the context of astronomy and space sciences could refer to the chapters under various authorships in the book 'Organizations and Strategies in Astronomy and Related Space Sciences' (Ed. A. Heck, Kluwer Academic Publishers, in press, ISBN 0-7923-6671-9) and to the references therein.

Several chapters dealing with public outreach, news media and so on can also be found in another book just published and entitled 'Information Handling in Astronomy' (Ed. A. Heck, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2000, ISBN ISBN 0-7923-6494-5).

The author of these few lines has a 30 year-long international career in astronomy and space sciences with interdisciplinary collaborations involving, beyond instrumental technologies and information sciences, psychology, biology, medicine and sociology. He has also degrees in communication techniques and mass studies.

A couple of years ago, he launched the so-called 'socio-dynamics of astronomy and space sciences'.

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Conference announcements and calls for papers

Edwardian Science - was there such a thing? is the title of the next BSHS meeting to be held on 21 May 2001, at the Museum of the History of Science, Oxford, England. The aim of this meeting is to explore the Edwardian period, loosely interpreted (i.e., circa 1900 - 1914), seeking thematic elements in the spheres of science, education (particularly technical), institutions, and politics, that can be identified particularly with the early years of the twentieth century in Great Britain. Suggestions for papers are invited. Please send abstracts by November 30th to Professor David Knight (D.M.Knight@dur.ac.uk) or Professor Robert Olby (olbyr@imap.pitt.edu). The BSHS website can be found via: <http://www.bshs.org.uk>.

Experimenting in Arts & Sciences, an International Workshop, will take place on January 25-26, 2001, at the University of Maastricht. The analysis of art and the analysis of science are usually distinct academic endeavors. Explorations within art and explorations within science seem to be even less related activities. One can regret the former situation from an interdisciplinary point of view. But one can actually deny the second assertion on closer observation. Historically, the arts and sciences have been quite intimately connected phenomena, as is already indicated by the very term "art", which used to refer to many areas that now are classified as "science". But also in more recent periods, there seem to have been, and still are, many more congruences and cross-links than appear on first sight. This workshop aims to bring the two cultural spheres (back) into a common perspective by examining the role of experiment in the arts and the sciences. By bringing together scholars who study arts and/or sciences and who have a special interest in experimentation, it intends to create a fresh view on two seemingly disparate domains. The workshop will be held at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Universiteit Maastricht, located in the beautiful old town of Maastricht, on January 25 and 26, 2001. Admission is free, but regrettably we cannot afford to reimburse cost of travel and accommodation. However, if necessary for raising

travel funds, we can provide an official invitation. There will be a workshop dinner for all participants on the night of the 25th and lunches and refreshments are offered during the day. Participants are kindly requested to confirm their participation before December 31, 2000 to the following e-mail address: C.Diesfeldt@student.unimaas.nl.

On June 28-29, 2001 the **Delft University of Technology**, Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management will host the 6th EURAS Workshop on *Standards, Compatibility and Infrastructure Development*. The EURAS (European Academy for Standardization) workshop will be held in collaboration with the *5th International Conference on Technology Policy and Innovation ("Critical Infrastructures"*, June 26-29 2001, www.delft2001.tudelft.nl) in The Hague, the Netherlands. Infrastructures such as communication, broadcasting, transportation, electricity, and waterways are complex, large socio-technical systems. Involved are institutions and technologies, both of which seem resilient to any significant changes. They evolve slowly. Standards are crucial to infrastructure development. They generally are a pre-condition for emergent systems and play a key-role in mature infrastructures. In the workshop we would like to explore the relationship between standards, compatibility and infrastructure development from different angles (technology, economy, policy science, law, etc.). The aim of this workshop is, firstly, to deepen our insight in this area of standardisation. Secondly, together we may provide the theoretical and empirical material that is necessary to assess whether standards can be regarded as change agents for infrastructure development. Theoretical and empirical papers are particularly welcome in the following areas: Impact of *de facto* standards, consortium standards, formal standards on networks; Compatibility problems in infrastructures; Flexibility, standardisation and infrastructure development; Compatibility and network externalities; Influence of standardisation on competition between infrastructure subsystems; Intellectual Property Rights and

infrastructure standards; and EU policy and the compatibility of infrastructures. Suggestions for related topics are most welcome. The deadline for the submission of abstracts for papers (max. 1 page) is December 15, 2000. They should be sent to both members of the Organising Committee by email (see below) or by post (Delft University of Technology, Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management, Jaffalaan 5, PO Box 5015, 2600 GA Delft, The Netherlands). Authors informed of paper acceptance: January 20, 2001; deadline for final paper submission: March 15, 2001. *Organising committee contact:* Tineke Egyedi, ICT, Standardisation, Tel: +31 15 278 6344, Fax: +31 15 278 7925, T.M.Egyedi@tbm.tudelft.nl; *EURAS contact:* Manfred J. Holler, President of EURAS, IAW, University of Hamburg, Von-Melle-Park 5, D-20146 Hamburg, holler@hermes1.econ.uni-hamburg.de.

HYLE invites papers for a special issue on *Ethics of Chemistry*, with a deadline of 31 May 2001. The topic 'ethics of chemistry' is meant in a broad sense including the two interrelated perspectives of professional ethics and general philosophical ethics. Regarding the chemical community as a part of larger society, then both the particular values of the chemical community as such and their relations to general societal values are at issue. The word 'values' should be taken in its broadest sense to include both professional and societal ideals not ordinarily considered in moral theory. Thus, in this special issue we wish to contribute to a better understanding of the values of chemistry and their relation to general values, i.e. the place of chemistry in the society. We welcome studies in both descriptive and normative ethics. Descriptive approaches should be based on generally accepted methods (e.g., sociological, psychological, phenomenological, linguistic, hermeneutical, historiographical methods, etc.); case studies are particularly encouraged. Normative approaches should clearly point out which normative principles of philosophical ethics are presupposed. The focus of this special issue is on chemistry, including subfields and related fields such as biochemistry, medicinal chemistry, chemical engineering, etc. Many of the publicly debated moral issues of science are strongly related to chemistry, though frequently located in interdisciplinary fields and sometimes associated with other disciplines such

as biology or medicine. Papers on these interdisciplinary fields should make clear, by methodological or historical reasoning, in what sense the issues belong to chemistry and in what sense not. Moreover, a distinction should be made between chemistry as a science or research activity and the chemical industry as an economic institution. Papers should be on the former, which does not exclude that it takes place in or is influenced by the latter. Contributions may deal with one or several topics of a (not exclusive) list to be found on our website (see below). The list is divided up according to the two main strands of ethics of science, but papers may also combine the two themes as appropriate, professional ethics and chemistry and society. Manuscripts should follow the general Guidelines for Contributions, available on the inside cover of HYLE and the HYLE web site. Submissions should be received not later than May 31, 2001 in appropriate form for anonymous reviews. Send papers and inquiries regarding suitability of submissions etc. to the Editor, Dr. Joachim Schummer, Institute of Philosophy, University of Karlsruhe, D-76128 Karlsruhe, GERMANY, Joachim.Schummer@geist-soz.uni-karlsruhe.de, HYLE - International Journal for Philosophy of Chemistry, <http://www.uni-karlsruhe.de/~philosophie/hyle.html>

The research network *Sociology of Science and Technology* (SSTNET) invites you to submit paper proposals for our stream of sessions on Commodification of Knowledge at the Conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA) in Helsinki, Finland August 28th September 1st 2001. You find the call for papers on the SSTNET website (or below) <http://www.mpi-fg-koeln.mpg.de/sstnet/news.html>. Deadline for submissions is January 31 2001. The SSTNET sessions at the Helsinki Conference of the ESA focus on the Commodification of Knowledge. Modern complex societies are characterized as knowledge societies. Professional expertise and knowledge-based technology are needed to further develop these societies. Knowledge is also a central productive force in the 'new economy'. New modes of knowledge production have evolved and the products are different from traditional scientific knowledge. Academic knowledge producers have an increasing interest in the commercial viability of knowledge and in

the development of strategies that include among others setting up knowledge transfer agencies. For this purpose knowledge must assume the properties of a private commodity. Commodification may require a transformation from tacit into explicit, unstandardized into standardized, uncoded into codified knowledge and an emphasis on its exchange value rather than on its utility value. Changes in knowledge production and the incentives (or the pressure) to commercialize knowledge correspond with significant changes in the ethical presumptions of science and the normative orientations of researchers. As knowledge can be easily distributed via global communication networks, it can become an important source of revenue. At the same time knowledge needs special protection such as patents and other intellectual property rights to prevent unauthorized use. Access to knowledge is unequally distributed in society. With the commodification of knowledge, access problems are likely to become relevant. This tends to undermine the basis of the knowledge society. As a consequence, political measures are taken to improve access to information (e.g. information infrastructure initiatives). There are also movements that argue for the development of knowledge as a public good. Papers are invited which review and discuss: Theoretical approaches to the knowledge society as a society of commodified knowledge; Processes, actors and institutions of commodification and de-commodification; Modes and institutions of knowledge production in the knowledge economy; The changing role, organization and normative basis of universities in the process of commercialization and commodification of knowledge; Social divisions and borders concerning access to (commodified) knowledge. Theoretical and empirical studies, including national case studies, are welcome. According to the rules of the European Sociological Association (ESA), title and abstracts (250 words) of the proposed paper must be sent preferably by e-mail to the SSTNET session organizers (and not the Conference Secretariat) by January 31, 2001. The notification of acceptance/rejection of abstracts will be made after April 1, 2001. Papers should be made for circulation by August 15, 2001. Organizers of the SSTNET sessions are: Raymund Werle: Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Paulstr. 3, 50676 Köln, Germany, Tel: +49 221 2767224; Fax: +49 221 2767452 E-mail: werle@mpi-fg-koeln.mpg.de;

Maria Nedeva: PREST (Policy Research in Engineering, Science and Technology) Victoria University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL, United Kingdom, Tel: +44 161 275 5921, Fax: +44 161 273 1123 E-mail: maria.nedeva@man.ac.uk; Franc Mali: University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences, 1001 Ljubljana, P.O.BOX 2547, Slovenia, Tel: +386-1-5805-100, Fax: + 386-1-5805-101 E-mail: franc.mali@uni-lj.si; and Maarten Mentzel: School of Systems Engineering and Policy Analysis (SEPA), Delft University of Technology, POBox 5015, 2600 GA Delft, The Netherlands, Tel: +31 (15) 278 8458/8380; Fax: +31 (15) 278 3429 E-mail: m.a.mentzel@planet.nl. For general information on the conference please visit the ESA web site at: <http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/helsinki.htm> More about SSTNET at: <http://www.mpi-fg-koeln.mpg.de/sstnet>

The *Nelson and Winter Conference* to be held in **Aalborg, Denmark** on June 12-15 2001 has issued a Call for Papers. It is now almost 20 years since Dick Nelson and Sid Winter published their seminal book *An Evolutionary Theory of Economic Change*. In this occasion DRUID (Danish Research Unit of Industrial Dynamics), in collaboration with the journals *Research Policy* and *Industrial and Corporate Change* organises a conference to map theoretical and empirical advances over the last two decades, further contribute with novel insights and stimulate civilized controversies in some of the areas explored by the Nelson and Winter book. The programme will be organised along six themes (in parenthesis some of the scholars who have already committed them to deliver a lead paper to the theme). Theme A: Industrial and Market Dynamics (Bo Carlsson, Paul Geroski, Steve Klepper, Franco Malerba, Stan Metcalfe). Theme B: Production and Use of Knowledge (Ed Constant, Paul David, Dominique Foray, Brian Loasby, Keith Pavitt, Ed Steinmueller). Theme C: Technical Change, Production Organisation and the Firm (Esben Sloth Andersen, Benjamin Coriat, Giovanni Dosi, Rebecca Henderson, Patrick Llerena, Ulrich Witt). Theme D: Routines, Organisational Practises and Strategies (Jens Frøsløv Christensen, Nicolai J. Foss, Ove Granstrand, Dan Levinthal, George B. Richardson). Theme E: Growth, Development and Structural Change (Mario Cimoli, Jan Fagerberg,

Jorge Katz, Richard Lipsey, Peter Maskell, Lynn Mytelka, Bart Verspagen). Theme F: National Systems of Innovation, Institutions and Public Policies (Robert Boyer, Charles Edquist, Bent Dalum, Bjoern Johnson, David Mowery, Bengt-Åke Lundvall, Keith Smith). Masahiko Aoki, Richard Nelson, Sidney Winter are amongst the participants in the opening or closing sessions. Both seniors and junior scholars are invited to join the event and contribute with a paper to the Conference. In particular, we want to encourage an active participation by young scholars (Ph.D.-students and scholars who finished their Ph.D. less than 5 years ago). Abstracts ought to be sent by February 15, 2001 to the following e-mail address: druid-nw2001@business.auc.dk. Since the selection of papers will be based on the abstracts we would like applicants to send extended abstracts (min. 2 pages) with a full outline of the argument and key references. Mention should also be made of whether the proposed paper falls within any of the six themes. By March 15, 2001 the organising committee will inform the applicants about the acceptance of the paper. Full papers should be delivered by May 10, 2001. Participants whose papers have been accepted will have conference fee waived. Moreover for young scholars with accepted papers there will be the possibility to apply for support to travel and accommodation. The conference is in honour of the work by Nelson and Winter but we do not expect the majority of papers to be explicit comments to their work. Rather we expect papers to primarily to be original contributions and the conference as a whole to take stock from different perspectives on the issues raised in their book. We plan special issues of *Research Policy* and *Industrial and Corporate Change*, as well as a Book to come out in 2002 to mark the 20th anniversary. After usual refereeing process the best contributions from younger scholars will be included in these publications together with contributions from senior scholars.

Internet Research 2.0: Interconnections, the Second International Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers, to take place on October 10-14, 2001 at the University of Minnesota, **Minneapolis-St. Paul** Minnesota, USA, has issued a call for papers, with a deadline for submissions set for Friday, March 2, 2001.

The Internet's ever-increasing points of connection to almost every element of 21st century life have prompted strong interest in understanding the social aspects of cyberspace. The popular press offers wave after wave of speculation and vague forecasts, but what is really needed to help us understand how to live in our wired world is research: research that is collaborative, international, and interdisciplinary. In September 2000, over 300 people attended the first international Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) at the University of Kansas. This Conference built connections among Internet researchers from across a range of disciplines and from around the globe. In October of 2001, IR 2.0 will bring together prominent scholars, on the campus of the University of Minnesota, one of the world's most technologically innovative campuses, close to the sights and sounds of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The Association of Internet Researchers invites paper, presentation, and panel proposals on topics that address social, cultural, political, economic, and aesthetic aspects of the Internet. We welcome submissions from any discipline, as well as work from those producing new media or working in multimedia studies. Panel presentations which establish connections across disciplines, institutions and/or continents are especially encouraged. We also seek presentations which will make creative use of Internet technologies and techniques, including (but not limited to) digital art and e-poster sessions. We suggest the following as possible themes for proposals: communication-based Internet studies; digital art; distance education and pedagogy; e-commerce and business; gender, sexualities, and the Internet; human-computer interaction (HCI); international perspectives on the Internet; Internet technologies; law and the Internet, including privacy and copyright issues; methodological issues in Internet studies; new media and Internet journalism; psychology and the Internet; the "Digital Divide"; race and cyberspace; and rhetoric and technology. This list is not meant to be exclusive, but rather to trigger ideas and encourage submissions from a range of disciplines. When we are able to identify scholars from a range of disciplines pursuing shared themes, we will work to bring these scholars together for panel sessions. Individual paper and presentation proposals should be no more than 250 words. Panels will generally include three or four papers or presentations. For panel proposals,

the session organizer should submit a 150-250 word statement describing the panel topic, including abstracts of up to 250 words for each paper or presentation in the panel. We also invite proposals for pre-Conference workshops. These proposals should be submitted as soon as possible (no later than January 31, 2001) so that the workshops can be publicized. All proposals should be submitted electronically at <http://www2.cddc.vt.edu/confman/>. It is preferred that you use HTML to minimally format your submission. The deadline for submissions of paper/session proposals is Friday, March 2, 2001. If you have questions about the program, conference, or AoIR, please contact: Program Chair: Leslie Shade, University of Ottawa, shade@aix1.uottawa.ca Conference Coordinator: John Logie, University of Minnesota logie@tc.umn.edu A(O)IR President: Steve Jones, sjones@uic.edu. More Information about IR 2.0 can be found on the Conference Website: <http://www.cddc.vt.edu/aoir>. For more information about the Association of Internet Researchers, including information on joining the Association, visit AoIR's website at <http://aoir.org>.

The fourth international conference of the *Commission on the History of Modern Chemistry* (CHMC) of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science will take place 3-5 October 2002. The Chemical Heritage Foundation in **Philadelphia** (USA) will host this meeting, "Industrial-Academic Relationships in the Chemical and Molecular Sciences." The general theme of the conference is the interactions between the chemical and molecular sciences, technologies, and related industries since 1900. Traditionally, studies in this area have employed a linear approach to the science-technology relationship. However, it is well established that such transfers are rarely uni-directional. We hope to encourage further a shift in emphasis toward multi-directional transfers. Knowledge, practices, transfer successes and failures, technology, materials, organizational networks, management of R&D, and labor are all potential objects of study within these exchanges. Related themes include interactions with other research centers beyond the academy-e.g. national laboratories, military centers, experimental stations, NGOs, and colonial institutions. Papers are invited on and around this theme. Comparative and international

perspectives are strongly encouraged. For more information, please contact: Leo B. Slater, Chemical Heritage Foundation, 315 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-2702, USA, Phone: (215) 873-8224, Fax: (215) 925-1954, E-mail: lslater@chemheritage.org.

The *International Symposium on Technology and Society 2001* (ISTAS '01), sponsored by the IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology and co-sponsored by IEEE Computer Society, will take place on July 6-7, 2001 at the University of Connecticut, **Stamford, Connecticut**, USA. The theme is the Ethical and Social Issues Criteria in Academic Accreditation. For the call for papers, see <http://chortle.ccsu.ctstateu.edu/istas01/>.

The Ethics and Socio-Cultural Issues Assembly of the *National Association for Science, Technology, and Society (STS)* is pleased to announce a "Call for Papers" opportunity to participate in the year 2001 annual national STS Conference - STS-16 "Our Human Future," March 1-4, 2001, in **Baltimore, Maryland**, USA, at the Inner Harbour Holiday Inn. The Ethics and Socio-Cultural Issues Assembly has created a conference sub-theme titled "Health As a Human Value - The Courage to Care" which is being presented within a number of interdisciplinary conference Break-Out Panels scheduled throughout the conference. Suggested Paper Presentation content can be in forms including: presenting research, study or work accomplished, curriculum design, "best practices" to be highlighted or reviewed, etc. Further information. Any questions, contact Franz A. Foltz at fafgsh@osfmail.rit.edu or Gary F. Varrella at gvarrell@osf1.gmu.edu.

Organised by the *Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture* (T.I.K.), **University of Oslo**, the conference on 21st Century Policies for Sustainable Technological Innovation: The Role of STS Higher Education will be the fourth and final international conference organised as part of the European POSTI project: "Policies for Sustainable Technological Innovation in the 21st Century". This is its call for papers. By sustainable innovation, POSTI refers to two different concepts: 1. sustainability-related objectives and measures incorporated in innovation processes or outputs; 2. innovation

processes or outputs which aim directly at improving the present or future quality of the environment, in a broad sense. While POSTI encompasses ideas related to "clean technology" and "green innovation", it also incorporates aspects of sustainability in the interactions between social, political, economic and ecological spheres. The Oslo conference will be organised into plenary sessions, panel discussions, a keynote address and two topical streams: 1st stream. Europe's 21. century policies for multidisciplinary studies in society, science and society. During recent years several hundred young academics have graduated from society, science and society (STS) programmes. In this stream we would like to discuss some aspects in connection to the contents, benefits and potential of such programmes. What is the intellectual background and status quo of such courses? In what degree are they really multi-disciplinary? At a more general level, we would like to ask what kind of benefits this type of education may or may not have for corporations, communities and society. Does this type of education play any role at all within the current and future shaping of discourse and practice related to sustainability and social acceptability? Finally we want to illuminate policy-related aspects of higher education in science, technology and society. What are the current policies at the national and European levels regarding the fostering of such multidisciplinary higher education? Should there be any policies within this area in the future? If yes, what are the most important aspects in connection with policy formation in the area? Note that we are within this stream not only interested in receiving papers which might broadly fall in the category of STS studies, but also in studies of related types of educational programmes (e.g. higher education in management of technology or in economics of science and technology etc.). 2nd stream. Europe's 21. century policies for higher education in natural sciences and engineering. This stream corresponds more or less to the stream outlined above, except that it takes its point of departure in higher education within natural sciences and engineering. In what degree is such education focussed exclusively on scientific and technical aspects, versus including the societal aspects of science and technology? Moreover, what are the current policies at the national and European levels regarding such higher education? How should those policies be adapted in the future?

What are the most important aspects in connection with policy formation in the area? Proposals for papers are invited from a broad range of Science, Technology and Society (STS) and related disciplines, and may focus upon theoretical, methodological, empirical or applied research topics, or upon direct experience of STS-informed policymaking in the public or the private sector. The best contributions to the four POSTI conferences will be compiled into a major book. Proposals for papers should consist of a title, an indication of the stream which the paper is intended for, an outline of maximum 2 pages (ca. 800 words) including references, and a 10-line CV. Proposals will be refereed by a committee consisting of Dr. Birgitte Gregersen (Aalborg University), Dr. Manuel Mira Godinho (Technical University of Lisbon), and Dr. Terje Gronning (University of Oslo). Proposals should be submitted via a special submission form available on the conference web site. In keeping with the overall objectives of POSTI, we encourage the submission of proposals from younger researchers (Masters degree graduates and above), as well as proposals from senior academics and persons working in private firms or in public administration. The best contributions to the four POSTI conferences will be compiled into a major book. The deadline for receipt of proposals is 1 February, 2001. For the full text of the call for papers and more information about the conference and the POSTI project, see: <http://www.esst.uio.no/posti/cfp.html>. Contact person: Grazyna K. Normandbo, conference administrator Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture (T.I.K.), University of Oslo P.B. 1108 N-0317 Oslo, Norway, tel: +47 22 84 06 00, fax: +47 22 84 06 01, e-mail: g.k.normandbo@tik.uio.no, <http://www.tik.uio.no/>

The Design Workshop dedicated to the *Social Dimensions of Engineering Design* at the **Harvey Mudd College** on 17-19 May 2001 has issued a call for papers. The Workshop will identify and articulate 4-6 key social and societal issues that engineering design educators and their social science colleagues should address, including: design as a social process; social and political issues in design; social issues in design for a hopeful future in a diverse, global society; instrumental approaches and methods for "optimizing" designs; ethics and design-a natural confluence?; and miscellaneous/other issues in

engineering design education. Panelists will initiate discussion with brief position papers; the bulk of the time will be spent in discussion. One-half of the final day will be devoted to collecting the most important outputs into recommendations-to be disseminated-for improving engineering design education. A proceedings volume (containing the workshop's findings and recommendations, the position papers, and summaries of the panel discussions) will be published. Two-page abstracts to be submitted by 15 December 2000 to holly_hauck@hmc.edu. ADVISORY COMMITTEE Clive L. Dym, Harvey Mudd College, and Langdon Winner, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, co-chairs; L. L. ("Larry") Bucciarelli, Jr., Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Todd Cherkasky, Sapient; Sarah Kuhn, University of Massachusetts-Lowell; Larry J. Leifer, Stanford University; Patrick Little, Harvey Mudd College; Gregory B. Olson, Northwestern University; John W. Prados, University of Tennessee-Knoxville; and John W. Wesner, Carnegie Mellon University.

The McLuhan Institute in **Maastricht**, the Netherlands announces *Digital Culture Heritage III, Finding Aids and Analysis Tools in Archives and Memory Institutions*, to be held 11-14 July 2001, in Maastricht. All over the world, the titles and contents of the great libraries, museums, art galleries and archives are becoming available online. While interoperable, technological standards are emerging, problems of interoperable applications, tools, interfaces and usability remain. The Maastricht McLuhan Institute (MMI) was set up to study and develop methods for knowledge organisation and knowledge management in a digital, distributed, multimedia world. The aim of the MMI is to create comprehensive strategies for searching, structuring, using and presenting digital resources more coherently and efficiently; to integrate past knowledge and to produce ordered knowledge that leads to new understanding and insights. This year's seminar is concerned with integrating developments in finding aids (virtual reference rooms) with innovations in text and other analysis tools which will allow the most varied and rich access to cultural and historical information and knowledge. Following on from the experience gained in the last two cycles which focused on implications of digitalisation (1999) and

interoperability of content (2000), this seminar will continue to explore how multimedia is transforming learning, knowledge organisation and knowledge management and will focus on archives. The cycle of attention given to all three kinds of memory institutions (museum, library, archive) is conceived to be a building and integrative process. The seminar provides an opportunity to gain exposure to the most recent developments in cultural heritage science and to interact with other professionals who share similar concerns. The conference will be limited to a maximum of fifty persons, with speakers and discussions in the morning and small workshops with a maximum of fifteen in the afternoons. A general foundation will be laid in the opening session by the Scientific Director of the MMI, Kim Veltman. This will be followed by treatment of finding aids and analysis tools, as they are used or projected for archives and other memory institutions. Among others, speakers will include Peter Horsman from the Archival School in Amsterdam, Manfred Thaller from the University of Coogne and author or KLEIO, Michele Paoli from the Information Research Center on Culture, Pisa, and Pat Young of the Cultural Heritage Information Network, Canada. On the last day a synthesis of the different topics will be offered by experts who will take a broader perspective on cultural heritage preservation and access. The afternoon discussion groups will be divided among those interests relevant to the current work of those in attendance. All seminars, presentations and debates will be in English. The seminar will take place at the Maastricht McLuhan Institute, Grote Gracht 82, Maastricht, The Netherlands. The application fee of NLG 1500 (Euro 681) includes access to the complete programme, daily lunches and refreshments, and admission to the cultural evening programme of the Amsterdam-Maastricht Summer University. For more information including application procedures, please contact Alana Henry, alana@amsu.edu, Amsterdam Maastricht Summer University, P.O. Box 53066, 1007 RB, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, tel: +31 20 620 0225, fax.: +31 20 6249368. Information will also be available on our website: www.amsu.edu after January, 2001.

The German Society for the History of Medicine, Science and Technology (DGGMNT) will celebrate its 100th birthday at its 84th Annual Meeting in **Hamburg**, 28 September - 1 October

2001. The theme of the meeting is *Trends and Perspectives in the History of Medicine, Science and Technology*. Here is the call for sessions. The meeting is concerned with the history, present and future of the historiography of medicine, science and technology in Germany and world-wide. It will focus on the intellectual development of the discipline as well as on its institutional situation. The objective of the meeting is a critical assessment of the historical development of the profession and its present situation, a reflection of own choices of action and the development of future perspectives. The proposals have to be submitted by 31 December 2000 to the President of the German Society for the History of Medicine, Science and Technology, Prof Helmuth Albrecht, Institut fuer Wissenschafts- und Technikgeschichte, TU Bergakademie Freiberg, Nonnengasse 22, 09599 Freiberg, Germany; fax: +49-3731-392832; e-mail: halbrech@vwl.tu-freiberg.de. For further information see: <http://www.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/dggmnt/tagungen/hamburg2001.html>

The *Journal of College Science Teaching* (published by the National Science Teachers Assoc.) is seeking qualified reviewers in history, philosophy and social studies of science. Reviewers will consider papers aimed primarily at secondary and/or college science instructors and evaluate content on "history and nature of science" or "science in personal and social perspectives." Prospective reviewers should be widely familiar with the diversity of current approaches in their field (or science studies, more generally) and be sensitive to appropriate simplifications for educational contexts. Contact: Douglas Allchin allchin@pclink.com Please include your address, e-mail and fields you are confident to review.

Information on the 6th edition of the PCST "Public Communication of Science and Technology" conference series, to take place at CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, in Geneva, Switzerland, 1-3 February 1 2001 is available at <http://www.cern.ch/pct2001>.

Transforming Tradition: Creative adaptations to the 21st Century is the title of a symposium (from

4th - 6th January 2001 at **Collingwood College** Durham, UK) that begins from thinking about people, places, customs and ceremonials potentially neglected or even marginalised by the onward rush of successive modernization. A number of distinguished speakers have already agreed to offer presentations on the theme that identities which can be or have been seen traditional are not necessarily resistant to the challenges of change. We now invite offers to join us either through offering further presentations or in the more general discussions. We plan to gather together participants from diverse academic and practice backgrounds but all committed to the study of cultural change in order to explore themes in the contemporary elaboration of traditional forms. We plan to facilitate participation and debate from social theorists as well as those engaged in transforming traditional sites through forms of creative activity. We plan to hold a number of panel sessions and workshops covering the themes of inventing, telling, crossing and performing traditions. Contributions are therefore now invited from those who feel excited by the opportunity to discuss practical uses of tradition as resource in the constitution of novelty. Steven Lukes, Alexandra Howson, Paul Atkinson, Anne Witz, Kevin Hetherington, Richard Sennett and others will be discussing, inventing, telling, performing, and crossing traditions. See <http://www.dur.ac.uk/Sociology/transtrad/transtrad.htm>.

Opportunities available

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Science and Technology Studies Department invites applications for a position in policy analysis or social analysis of information technology. Possible research areas include community/social informatics, education and IT, digital divide, digital governance, health informatics, historical and cultural studies of IT, privacy, and sustainable development and IT. Candidates should demonstrate a record of achievement in sponsored research and be able to provide leadership in a department and university that are committed to rapid expansion in the IT area. Candidates should also be able to teach interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate courses in the social sciences and humanities in the STS field. Rank is

open, but preference will be given to faculty at the associate or full professor rank. Please send a CV and the names of three references to David Hess, Department Chair, STS Department, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY 12180-3590. Screening will begin December 1, 2000, but applications will be considered after that date. Rensselaer is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages applications from women and members of minority groups. For more information on the STS Department, see <http://www.rpi.edu/dept/sts>.

Virginia Tech announces two tenure-track appointments in Science and Technology Studies (STS) at the Assistant Professor or early Associate Professor level beginning August 10, 2001. We seek applications from scholars from a wide range of fields to complement existing strengths in history, philosophy, and social studies of science and technology. We are looking especially for faculty working in contemporary areas, including science and technology policy studies, politics and economics of science and technology, ethics in science and technology, and science, technology, and the public. Successful candidates will contribute to Ph.D. tracks in Politics and Policy Studies and/or Social and Cultural Studies. Both positions will be located at the University's main campus in Blacksburg. Candidates should have the Ph.D. in hand by the date of appointment. Candidates for assistant professor must demonstrate significant programs of research, and candidates for associate professor must demonstrate significant research accomplishments. Also required is evidence of good teaching and a commitment to working in an interdisciplinary environment. For a more complete description of the positions, consult <http://www.cis.vt.edu/stspositions/>. The main teaching responsibilities will be in the STS Graduate Program and the undergraduate program in Humanities, Science, and Technology (HST), with the expectation of teaching in related programs and departments as appropriate. The hiring unit for this position is the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies (CIS) in the College of Arts and Sciences. The STS Program is run jointly with the Departments of History, Philosophy, Political Science, and Sociology. The STS Program is also located at the University's Northern Virginia Center in Falls Church, which is in the northern Virginia/Washington, D.C.

metropolitan area. Established in 1978, the HST Program offers nine courses, an undergraduate concentration, and a degree option in Interdisciplinary Studies. Established in 1986, the STS Program provides opportunities for student to pursue the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. The Program has a strong record placing 26 Ph.D. recipients and 64 M.S. recipients in appropriate positions. At present, 44 students are in residence at the Blacksburg campus, and 28 students are at Falls Church. Eight full-time and eight part-time CIS faculty staff the STS Graduate Program together with 13 faculty from History, Philosophy, Political Science, and Sociology and six faculty from other units. Formed in 1995, CIS is comprised of a number of interdisciplinary programs, including STS and HST as well as undergraduate programs in Black Studies, Humanities, Interdisciplinary Studies, Judaic Studies, Religious Studies, and Women's Studies. Interested candidates should send a detailed letter of application, current CV, recent writing sample, syllabi for courses taught or teaching portfolio if available, and at least three letters of recommendation. We will begin screening applications on November 1, 2000 and continue until the positions are filled. The College of Arts and Sciences is deeply committed to recruiting, selecting, promoting, and retaining women, persons of color, and persons with disabilities. We strongly value diversity in the college community, and seek to assure equality in education and employment. Individuals with disabilities desiring accommodations in the application process should notify the search committee chair (TTY: 1-800-828-1120) by the application deadline. Please send applications to Gary Downey, Chair, STS Search Committee, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0227. You may also call or write: 540-231-7615 (dept), 540-231-7013 (fax), downeyg@vt.edu.

The Science and Technology Studies Program at the **University of California, Davis**, USA seeks a tenured associate or full professor, beginning Fall 2001. We are seeking an accomplished scholar to lead program development and guide the transition from an existing program in History and Philosophy of Science. Duties include research, teaching, supervision of students, and curriculum development. Teaching is based on a standard faculty load of four quarter courses per year. Reduction in teaching for administrative service is

negotiable. Possibility of departmental affiliation open. The appointee must have Ph.D. and have a record of strong scholarly and teaching accomplishments in some field of social, historical or philosophical studies of the natural or social sciences, medicine, or engineering. Minority and women candidates are especially encouraged to apply. In order to receive full consideration, send a letter expressing interest and current CV by December 15, 2000 to: Professor James Griesemer, Chair, Search Committee Science and Technology Studies Program University of California One Shields Avenue Davis, CA 95616-8673, USA Tel: 1-530-7521068, Fax: 1-530-752-8964 E-mail: jrgriesemer@ucdavis.edu. The position will remain open until filled. Direct informal, confidential inquiries to the Search Committee Chair. Direct administrative questions to Lesley Byrns (Office Manager) Tel: 1-530-7521291; Fax: 1-530-752-8964; E-mail: labyrns@ucdavis.edu. The University of California, Davis, and the Science and Technology Studies Program are interested in candidates who are committed to the highest standards of scholarship and professional activities, and to the development of a campus climate that supports equality and diversity. The University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

The **Max Planck Institute** for the History of Science in Berlin announces a Postdoctoral Fellowship for two years, beginning in spring 2001. Projects on the following topics are particularly welcome: digital image processing and computer modeling; modes of classification in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; relations between academic chemistry and chemical workshops or industry in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Fellowships are remunerated at 3400.- DM per month (fellows from abroad). Women are especially encouraged to apply. Qualifications being equal, precedence will be given to candidates with disabilities. Candidates are requested to send a curriculum vitae, research prospectus (maximum 1000 words), and two letters of recommendation no later than 31 December 2000 to Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Verwaltung (FG Klein), Wilhelmstr. 44, Berlin, Germany.

The **Chemical Heritage Foundation** (CHF) is

pleased to announce that applications are now being invited for Société de Chimie Industrielle (American Section) Fellowship. The purpose of the fellowship is to stimulate public understanding of the chemical industries, using both terms in their widest sense. Applications are encouraged from writers, journalists, educators, and historians of science, technology, and business. The second annual Société de Chimie Industrielle (American Section) Fellowship will be awarded for summer 2001, and provides a competitive stipend for living expenses and research support. The fellow will spend a minimum of two months in residence at CHF, conducting research on some aspect of the heritage of the chemical sciences or chemical process industries using the resources of CHF's Othmer Library of Chemical History, other area libraries, and associated resources. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae and a one-page research proposal outlining a specific project to be completed while in residence at CHF, and showing how the project will further public understanding of the chemical industries. In addition, applicants should arrange for two letters of reference to be sent directly to CHF. Deadline: 1 December 2000. Contact: Leo Slater, Chemical Heritage Foundation, 315 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-2702, USA, Phone: (215) 873-8224, Fax: (215) 925-1954, E-mail: lslater@chemheritage.org. For information on the Societe Fellowship or the Chemical Heritage Foundation and its other fellowships and grants, see <http://www.chemheritage.org>

The **Social Science Research Council** (<http://www.ssrc.org/iticgsfell.htm>) is pleased to announce the availability of new summer fellowships for innovative research on information technology (IT), international cooperation, and global security. PhD students and faculty from any academic discipline may apply. These in-residence fellowships are designed for researchers who currently work on cooperation and security issues and who want to explore the role and impact of IT in this area; or for researchers who work on IT and want to explore its relationship to cooperation and security. International cooperation and global security involve a wide range of issues including new forms of global regulation and surveillance; transboundary advocacy and global civil society; economic and political "crisis" and

transformation; unequal access to goods and services; transnational identity politics; conflict and transboundary intervention; military and warfare practices; and power and authority in the global realm. IT issues could involve the Internet and related technologies such as those associated with telecommunications, data processing, encryption, and systems of code; robotics, automation, and simulation; and concerns bearing directly on connectivity and content such as structures of information flow and processes of disinformation and dissemination.

University of Texas at Austin, the Department of Anthropology and the Interdisciplinary Program in Technology, Literacy, and Culture invite applications for an Assistant Professorship to begin Sept 2001. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. by June, 2001, and must have an outstanding record of anthropological research relating to the social impacts of technology. Theoretical specialization is open, but particular consideration will be given to candidates whose work deals with the role of new technologies in social change and/or popular and expressive culture. The Dept. of Anthropology has established strengths in gender relations and feminist theory; racial formation and race/ethnic politics; history, its construction and uses; nationalism, linguistic anthropology and expressive culture. The interdisciplinary program in Technology, Literacy, and Culture is an innovative program encompassing a range of Liberal Arts and Humanities approaches to the social impact of technology (see <http://www.tlc.utexas.edu>). Responsibilities include both graduate and undergraduate teaching in Anthropology and the Technology, Literacy, and Culture program. Applicants are expected to have an active research program dealing with some aspect of technology and society. Applicants must be able to demonstrate not only a high level of research productivity but also excellent teaching skills. Salary will be determined according to accomplishments and experience. Please send a letter of application, a vita, your email address, the names of 3 references, and a writing sample of article length by Dec. 15, 2000 to Samuel Wilson, Anthro/TLC Search Committee, Technology, Literacy, and Culture, Gebauer Bldg. 1.208, Univ. of Texas, Austin, TX 78712 USA.

Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service seeks to appoint assistant professor (tenure-track) in its program in Science, Technology and International Affairs (STIA). Candidates who specialize in the study of policy related to information and communications technology are especially encouraged to apply, although candidates in all subfields will be considered. The STIA program (see www.georgetown.edu/sfs/programs/stia) offers an undergraduate major, dealing with the intersection of science, technology, business and government in an international context, to more than 100 students in the School of Foreign Service. STIA is organized into four subfields: Business, Information and Communications, including the impact of innovations in information technology on business, government, and international affairs; Biotechnology and International Health, including political, economic, cultural and social factors; Technology and Security, including nuclear proliferation, technology and military strategy, and unconventional security threats; and Environmental Science, Politics and Economics. Application materials, including a letter of application, and three letters of reference, may be sent to Dr. Peter Dunkley, Associate Dean, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington, DC 20057. The committee will continue to receive applications until the position is filled. Georgetown University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

The **Chemical Heritage Foundation** (CHF) is pleased to announce that applications are now being invited for Research Travel Grants. CHF offers small travel grants to enable interested individuals to make use of the research resources of the Beckman Center for the History of Chemistry, the Othmer Library of Chemical History, and associated facilities. Grants may be used for travel, subsistence, and copying costs. While grants do not normally exceed \$500, applications for up to \$1000 will be considered, particularly from international applicants. Applications should include a complete curriculum vitae, a one page statement on the research proposed and the applicability of area resources, and a budget. In addition, applicants should arrange for two letters of reference to be sent directly to CHF. The Research Travel Grant program at CHF is made possible by Mrs. Henry Maeder, in memory of her husband, Henry.

Deadlines: 1 February for grants used April-June; 1 May for grants used July-September; 1 August for grants used October-November; 1 November for grants used January-March. Contact: Mary Ellen Bowden, E-mail: mebowden@chemheritage.org. For more information, see <http://www.chemheritage.org>.

Colby College seeks to fill a one-year replacement position in Science, Technology, and Society with additional responsibilities teaching courses in Administrative Science (management). The successful candidate will have the ability to teach introductory courses in general management as well as courses in STS, with a cross-over of topics desirable (for example, industrial history). The standard course load for the year is five, and experience teaching in a liberal arts environment is preferred. Please submit a letter of application, resume, and the names of three references to Prof. Leonard Reich, 5205 Colby College, Waterville, ME 04901. Applications will be considered beginning December 15, 2000, and continue until the position is filled. Colby is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Applications and nominations of women and minorities who would enrich the diversity of the campus community are strongly encouraged. For more information about the College, please visit the Colby web site: <http://www.colby.edu>.

Net News

Comments are sought on some citation research which has suggested two separate waves of interest in chaos theory between 1975 and 2000, plus some interesting discipline-specific dynamics. You will find a brief summary of the work, and specific questions for which we would appreciate feedback, at: <http://real.geog.ucsb.edu/pub/chaos/>

The International Society for the Philosophy of Chemistry is at <http://www.georgetown.edu/earleyj/ISPC.html>

The new European Biosafety Association website can be now found at : <http://www.ebsa>.

From 15 September to 31 October 2000 an e-conference was held by the British Council, with the following questions: Science is newsworthy, but can scientists be trusted to safeguard society's interests? How do we make science a more transparent and accountable process? Should the public drive the science agenda? The e-conference runs alongside the British Council's series of public talks, "Towards a Democratic Science" which take place around the world - from Slovenia to the Netherlands, from Russia to Japan. For more information about the talk series, please visit <http://science.britishcouncil.org>. For further information contact Aebhin Cawley, Education Officer, Science Communication International Limited, e-mail: acawley@sciencecomm.com.

The Antiproton Decelerator (AD), the new CERN antimatter factory, started operation in July 2000 and daily produces a large number of low energy antiprotons. Three experiments, ASACUSA, ATHENA and ATRAP, use them to make and study antiatoms. Recently public met scientists through two live webcasts, via <http://www.cern.ch/livefromcern/antimatter>. These live webcasts are produced by CERN in collaboration with the Exploratorium in San Francisco, USA. From our studio located in the CERN visitor center, live connections are established with the antimatter experiments, and three European schools in Finland, France and Italy. Questions from the local and remote audience will be answered by our guest scientists during the webcasts. For more information, contact the LIVEfromCERN Team at livefromcern.info@cern.ch.

Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology: Recent controversies, STS Research and the Policy Process

EASST Workshop, Lisbon, 8-9 February 2001

There is now several years' experience of STS research into controversies surrounding agricultural biotechnology, including the risks of GM food and crops, the relative advantages of various crop-protection methods, accounts of sustainable agriculture, etc. Recent events in Europe and elsewhere have demonstrated the central importance of relations between governmental policies on agro-biotech developments and public attitudes. Research results have been presented at various conferences and meetings, but it seems important to optimize and intensify research collaboration and comparative work. In Europe a variety of loose research networks have come into existence that may or may not overlap in terms of issues investigated and members. At the EASST conference in Vienna some of us discussed ways to build upon that research and to stimulate interaction between researchers. From that discussion, we propose a workshop that would aim to draw out implications of two types: 1) What should be learned about (and for) the EU policy process, e.g. the official framing of issues, the roles of institutional actors, the basis for their participation, the meanings of environmental precaution, comparisons and interactions among countries, the relevance of (or for) other controversial areas, etc. 2) What should be learned for future priorities of STS research on agricultural biotechnology in Europe, e.g. the reasons for any further studies of 'public attitudes', methods for studying regulatory institutions, etc.

At the workshop, participants would speak to those questions rather than simply report on their own research. The goal is to explore issues to be addressed, contributions to be made and ways to collaborate in a fruitful and effective way. The primary focus will be on EU policies, but given the global nature we would like to encourage input about the situation in other parts of the world like the U.S., Japan and Australia.

In order to achieve our goals it is important that participants arrive informed about the recent and ongoing research of participants. People interested

in participating are therefore invited to provide us with smart summaries of their work on the focal topics of the meeting. This information will be circulated to the other participants.

Time for individual paper presentations will be limited as we target for open discussions on key issues and the question how we may improve our work and co-ordination. Participants who want to present a paper, however we invite you to send in an abstract.

Organizing committee: Maria Eduarda Goncalves (coordinator), Uli Felt, Rob Hagendijk, Les Levidow

Date: 8-9 Februari 2001

Venue: CNADS (National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development), Lisbon. Number of participants: Max. 30.

Costs: Costs of travel, hotel etc. will be covered by the participants. Meetings will be at the CNADS center. A block of hotel rooms has been reserved at the Amazonia Hotel.

If you wish to participate or need further information please contact Maria Eduarda Goncalves (preferably by email): Maria Eduarda Goncalves, MEG, ISCTE
Avenida das Forças Armadas
1649-026 Lisbon
Fax: 351217964710, e-mail: mebg@iscte.pt

Open letter to the President of the Austrian Federal Republic Dr. Thomas Klestil

Dear Mr. President,

With great concern, we have learned of a series of attempts by members and representatives of the FPÖ to use the legal systems of Austria to intimidate and silence political opponents. When invoked systematically, such tactics not only target individuals; they constitute an attack on free speech and democracy itself. Openness, freedom of speech, and democratic deliberation are essential both for coming to terms with the tragic historical events of the Holocaust and for finding solutions to the problems of peaceful coexistence that we all face in the new century. They are also essential for the free exchange of views among scholars and intellectuals such as ourselves.

As members of the European Association for Studies of Science and Technology (EASST) and the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), we have a particular stake in defending freedom of speech and political expression. As scholars who study science, we are sensitive to the abuses that arise when politicians and state authorities attempt to restrict the free flow of ideas and knowledge. Our two societies, moreover, have gathered in Vienna in the year 2000 specifically to mark the transitions that are taking place at this historical moment. Our conference theme, "Worlds in Transition," reflects our interest in the grand social, political, economic and cultural transformations that are taking place around the world today, in tandem with revolutionary changes in science and technology. We are committed to exploring these issues across lines of race, class, ethnicity, religion, gender, and national identity.

Global transformations around science and technology are leading to fundamental changes in social structures and cultural and political relations. Many of these changes will be beneficial to humankind, but it is obvious that, especially in the shorter term, they may also pose threats to individuals and interest groups. Social unrest will predictably accompany such far-reaching transformations and xenophobic and racist sentiments can easily be aroused as a part of

the process. Yet xenophobia and racism are natural enemies of democracy and freedom of speech and stand in the way of achieving peaceful solutions to pressing social problems. We are not surprised that attempts to turn the legal and political systems into weapons against dissent should come from people associated with the FPÖ. What does surprise us, however, is that so little apparently is being done by the authorities to counteract such a grave threat to free expression and open political debate.

Our concern has been especially raised by the judgement against the internationally renowned social scientist Anton Pelinka by the Viennese Criminal Court (Straflandesgericht) for having "defamed" the character of former Freedom Party Leader Jörg Haider. Pelinka's alleged misdeed was to make the following statement on Italian television: "During his career, Haider repeatedly made statements which amount to trivializing National Socialism. Once he described death camps as penal camps. On the whole, Haider is responsible for making certain National Socialist positions and certain National Socialist remarks more politically acceptable." In many countries, Pelinka's statements would simply be taken as a legitimate expression of opinion about a public figure. One might question its validity or wisdom, but not his right to state such opinions in public. From the decision to fine Pelinka it is but a small step to restricting the freedom of academic speech more broadly. The fact that the acting Austrian Minister of Justice Dieter Böhmendorfer, an FPÖ member, is partner in the law firm responsible for such prosecutions only makes this episode more disturbing.

We have come to Vienna to express our belief in the possibility of communication among researchers from all countries and social groups. To the best of our knowledge, Austria does not wish to remain isolated or to disengage itself from exchanges of this kind. We sincerely hope you agree with us that such participation cannot be reconciled with the politics of intimidation and attacks on freedom of speech. We would like to express our support for academics who are prosecuted in whatever form for their scientific or