

ISSTI

THE INSTITUTE FOR
THE STUDY OF SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

newsletter

no. 20 February 2012

European Research Council Funding Successes

We are delighted to be able to announce that two ISSTI members have secured prestigious Advanced Investigator Awards from the European Research Council.

Professor Donald MacKenzie and team have been awarded €2.1 million to research evaluation practices in financial markets – *page 2*

Professor James Smith has been awarded almost €1.7million over 5 years for a project entitled 'Networks of Zoonosis Innovation' – *page 2*

In addition Professor Robin Williams will contribute to a major study of the adoption and consequences of e-Prescribing in English hospitals in conjunction with colleagues from Medicine – *page 3*

This extended edition of the ISSTI Newsletter points to our exciting programme of events scheduled for 2012, new postgraduate opportunities and the publication of three new books reporting findings from earlier research.

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Senior researcher to lead on IT-SAFE social and technical aspects of fire safety - *page 10*

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Grants and Awards

Two Million Euro Grant for Research on Social Studies of Finance.

A team of researchers based mainly in the School of Social and Political Science has been awarded a grant of approximately €2.1. million to research evaluation practices in financial markets.



Donald MacKenzie

The team consists of Donald MacKenzie (Sociology), Alex Preda (Sociology), Iain Hardie (Politics), James Clunie (Visiting Professor of Finance), Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra (Sociology, London School of Economics).

The grant has been awarded by the European Research Council under their Advanced Investigator Grants scheme. The grant will run for five years from September 2012.

The focus will be on how participants in financial markets evaluate (primarily how they try to work out the economic value) of financial instruments such as stocks and bonds.

For more information on social studies of finance, see: http://www.sociology.ed.ac.uk/current_research/social_studies_of_finance

James Smith Awarded European Research Council Funding

Congratulations also to James Smith who has just secured another prestigious Advanced Investigator Grant from the European Research Council for a project entitled 'Investigating Networks of Zoonosis Innovation' (INZI).

The 5 year award, worth almost €1.7million, will also involve Sue Welburn (Veterinary Medicine), Lawrence Dritsas (STIS), and Michelle Taylor (African Studies).

INZI will analyse the complex interplay of actors, policies and projects that have shaped research into, and control of, Human African

Trypanosomiasis to the present day. Research has mainly been steered from outside of Africa, firstly by colonial authorities and latterly by an array of agencies, foundations and international organisations.

Despite this, investment in research has declined and fragmented. INZI seeks to systematically analyse the evolution of these international networks, and their national and local implications, and in doing so will make a contribution to our emerging understanding of how science can work better for development.



James Smith



These two successes are outstanding: of 578 proposals, only 53 were funded across the whole of Europe in the Social Science and Humanities domain.

Grants and Awards

e-Prescribing in English hospitals

ISSTI will contribute to a major study of e-prescribing technologies in hospitals, *Investigating the implementation, adoption and effectiveness of ePrescribing systems in English hospitals: a mixed methods national evaluation*.

Edinburgh University is a partner in this project led by the University of Birmingham, with an initial tranche of £1.2Million funding from National Institute for Health Research for the first three years' work. Aziz Sheikh (Medicine, Edinburgh) leads the project and Robin Williams (r.williams@ed.ac.uk) will lead the work package that addresses procurement, implementation and adoption.

The project will explore how software design and implementation strategies affect the outcomes of e-prescribing. The project will examine whether e-prescribing technologies, especially those incorporating alert systems, will reduce the significant levels of potentially avoidable morbidity and mortality resulting from prescribing errors.



Robin Williams

Related event

Tuesday 27 March 2012

International Conference Centre, Birmingham

e-Prescribing:

Everything that you want to know but were afraid to ask!

A symposium for the health service

See the [event website](http://www.crfr.ac.uk/events/eprescribing/index.html) <http://www.crfr.ac.uk/events/eprescribing/index.html>

Congratulations to Ivan Crozier



Ivan Crozier

for securing a major Australian Research Council Future Fellowship for a four year study of Culture-bound syndromes, koro, and the emergence of 'cosmopolitan' psychiatry.

This historical study examines the concepts of ethnicity used by psychiatrists by focussing on the ways in which one culture-bound syndrome - koro - moved from being exclusively South-East Asian to being found in a number of cultures. It will develop significant understandings of psychiatric conceptions of cultural

differences.

The Fellowship, worth \$679,000 Australian (some £433K!) will be located in the University of Sydney and will include two joint international workshops on culture and psychiatry in Sydney and in Edinburgh with Stefan Ecks (Soc Anth) with an interdisciplinary community that will include anthropologists, historians and psychiatrists.

PhD Funding Opportunities in Science, Technology and Innovation Studies

Science, Technology and Innovation Studies (STIS) in the School of Social and Political Science at the University of Edinburgh is pleased to announce a number of funding opportunities at PhD level.

Edinburgh has been home to the Science Studies Unit's pioneering work in the sociology of scientific knowledge and to ground breaking studies of the social shaping of technology and includes the ESRC Centre for Social and Economic Research on Innovation in Genomics (Innogen).

We welcome prospective PhD students with interests in all aspects of science, technology and innovation studies.

Research areas include: innovation in the life sciences, history and sociology of medicine, energy and environmental sustainability, emerging technologies, information and communication

technologies, science and technology policy, and technology and international development. More information on the ongoing research in STIS can be found at: <http://www.stis.ed.ac.uk>

For more information: email [Jane Calvert](mailto:jane.calvert@ed.ac.uk) jane.calvert@ed.ac.uk

ESRC Scottish Doctoral Training Centre Awards

STIS has been awarded at least two studentships in the area of Science, Technology and Innovation Studies under

the ESRC Scottish Doctoral Training Centre.

We are also able to support candidates for the

Environment, Climate Change & Energy pathway of the ESRC Scottish Doctoral Training Centre.

"Singapore" PhD Studentship

STIS has a joint PhD programme with the National University of Singapore, and we have secured a studentship for 2012.

The successful candidate will spend one of the three years in Singapore working in the Science, Technology and Society Cluster. Priority will

be given to candidates whose work would benefit from having a co-supervisor in Singapore.

ESRC CASE studentship

The role of brokerage organisations in knowledge exchange processes: the case of Genesis Faraday Partnership

Applications are invited for a +3-year PhD CASE studentship. The student will work with the Biosciences Knowledge Transfer Network and the Innogen Centre

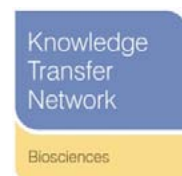
to examine the former's knowledge brokerage role, with a view to understanding what processes promote research uptake and what factors shape these processes.

For this studentship, email [Dr Catherine Lyall](mailto:c.lyall@ed.ac.uk) c.lyall@ed.ac.uk for further information

The deadline for all applications is **30 March 2012**. However, potential applicants should contact us as soon as possible to discuss their research topic and potential supervision.

For further information please see:

http://www.stis.ed.ac.uk/news/2012/post-graduate_funding_opportunities_2012-13



Teaching

Announcing for the 2012-13 academic year

MSc in Management of Bioeconomy, Innovation and Governance

A new postgraduate opportunity

Take a lead role in the development of the bioeconomy.

The Masters in Management of Bioeconomy, Innovation and Governance (MSc BIG) is a new kind of postgraduate qualification designed to meet the increasing demand for skilled people in the growing global bioeconomy.

The bioeconomy is made up of the sectors of the economy that are based on high value life science innovation, particularly as it relates to agriculture, health and the environment.

MSc BIG provides students with a dynamic set of skills, competencies and knowledge about life science innovation

“The emergence of individuals with the abilities to behave ethically, entrepreneurially and creatively will be a huge asset in the bioeconomy.”

**Alastair Kent, Director,
Genetic Alliance UK**

which are highly desired by prospective employers in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

Graduates will be able to conceptualise solutions for practical problems relating to firm strategy, policy and regulation, collaboration, and intellectual property - in a global context.

Programme Aims

- Knowledge and conceptual frameworks
- Current trends in life science innovation
- Innovation from ‘proof of concept’ to market readiness
- Risk, regulation and governance of the bioeconomy
- Knowledge management and intellectual property in life sciences
- New business models and value systems
- Financing of life science innovation and changing commercial R&D models and strategies

Structure & Courses

The MSc BIG programme draws upon current, real life case studies and the latest research findings.

Experiential rather than rote learning is encouraged,

accomplished through problem-based group work activities, presentations, and interactive seminars, as well as conventional lectures. The programme also includes

high-profile guest lectures.

The programme can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis.

Faculty

The programme is delivered by scholars within the ESRC Innogen Centre – a research institute world renowned for its study of the life sciences, proximity to government, and collaboration with commercial

and not-for-profit sectors within the bioeconomy.

Further information at: www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/innogen/studyhere/mscbig

Apply online at: http://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/gradschool/taught_masters/h_n/msc_management_bioeconomy_innovation_governance
Email: mscbig@ed.ac.uk

Symposium

One-day symposium to celebrate the contribution of Dr. Stewart Russell

Friday 30th March 2012

The University of Edinburgh

This one-day symposium will celebrate the ideas and ideals of our late colleague and friend, Dr Stewart Russell.

The event will focus on his contribution first in analysing the diverse social, economic and political as well as narrowly technical factors that influenced the design and deployment of technologies, and second in applying these insights and methodologies to the challenges of environmental sustainability through critical, policy oriented studies across a range of energy technologies.

We hope you will be able to take part.



Dr Stewart Russell
6th August 1955 -
17th September 2011

We welcome offers of papers that link in to and carry forward these traditions. Email [Robin Williams R.Williams@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Robin.Williams@ed.ac.uk) with your proposed title and a brief abstract.

To help us plan numbers, please email [Geraldine Debard Geraldine.Debard@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Geraldine.Debard@ed.ac.uk) if you are planning to attend. Geraldine will provide information about arrangements and suggestions for accommodation.

Dr. Stewart Russell was Deputy Director, Research Centre for Social Sciences, Senior Lecturer in Science, Technology and Innovation Studies, The University of Edinburgh



Symposium

Science and Technology Studies Unit, University of York

The Co-Production of Knowledge: Social Media, STS and ...

Wednesday 18-20th July 2012

Confirmed plenary speakers include: Geof Bowker, University of California, Irvine; Leah Lievrouw, UCLA; Adrian MacKenzie, CESAGen, University of Lancaster; Rob Proctor, e-Research Centre, University of Manchester; Robin Williams, ISSTI, Edinburgh; and Sally Wyatt, e-Humanities Programme, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

This three-day symposium is intended to explore the intersection between these two areas of inquiry, with a specific focus on how Web 2.0 is both generative and challenging of different forms of knowledge production and the authority it commands. Questions related to co-production, citizen science, the power of data algorithms and metrics to shape or bypass human agency, and the possibility of participatory forms of surveillance are just some of the issues that are raised.

This conference is intended to bring together leading scholars in the fields of STS, communication and social media analysis, and the history and philosophy of science to explore these issues critically.

Papers are invited that explore these broad questions around a number of possible themes, including:

- The boundaries and future of social media as a medium of knowledge creation, dissemination, and regulation

- The co-production of knowledge via Web 2.0 platforms
- Knowledge, expertise and disruptive/disrupted authority
- Capturing social media: the commercial/political exploitation by or empowering of Web 2.0
- Ownership, dissemination and use of scientific knowledge
- E-governance and the regulation of knowledge within social media
- National practices and global opportunities
- Novel forms of knowledge creation through group processes, archiving, digitisation etc.
- Public and visible science
- Scientific controversies online

Conference organising committee:

David Beer, Darren Reed, Mike Hardey, Brian Loader, Sarah Shrive-Morrison, Andrew Webster, Robin Williams, Sally Wyatt

Location: University of York, UK

Conference Fees (after 31st May 2012 +£50)

- Speakers/Chairs £150
 - Non Speakers £175
- Concessions
- Speakers: £80
 - Non Speakers £95
- Day Rate
- Speakers £80
 - Non Speakers £95
- Lunches included*

Abstract Submission

The deadline for this call for papers is **29 February 2012**.

If you are interested in submitting an individual paper, or panel including 3 papers, please go to our [web-link](http://www.york.ac.uk/satsu/news-events/ics/) <http://www.york.ac.uk/satsu/news-events/ics/> or email sarah.shrive-morrison@york.ac.uk

The best papers will make up a Special Issue of iCS and selected papers will also be published as an edited collection by Routledge.

Announcing the Mason Institute

Building on recent health-related work in the School of Law, colleagues from a broad range of Schools at the University of Edinburgh have founded the J Kenyon Mason Institute for Medicine, Life Sciences & Law.

The new Mason Institute will model the excellence and the openness of spirit and mind that characterised [JK Mason](#), Professor of Forensic Medicine (1973-1985) and Honorary Fellow in the School of Law (1985-2011), and that it will contribute to academia, public life and society more generally.

The Mason Institute will serve as an integrated, international, interdisciplinary institute founded in the School of Law at the University of Edinburgh, but working across several Schools and beyond, and serving as the vanguard for

knowledge-generation and evidence-based investigations into critical and emerging issues regarding the technical, social, legal, and ethical dimensions of health, medicine, life sciences and related technologies.

Human wellbeing, or flourishing, is an important social, moral, and legal matter; human health – which is more than the absence of disease – is essential for the enjoyment and maximisation of all human activities. As such, the legal and regulatory structures that enable and promote good health are vital.

The Mason Institute will pursue three streams of work – (1) research and policy; (2) training and support; and (3) teaching and capacity building.

It will become a focus for innovative interdisciplinary research, research-led teaching, impact generation and wider public engagement. Initial research plans fall under three themes: (1) research, technology and systems; (2) medicine, bioethics and futures; and (3) wellness, identity and culture.

For further information, email [Shawn Harmon](mailto:Shawn.Harmon@ed.ac.uk)
shawn.harmon@ed.ac.uk



Project news

Charles Raab European Framework Programme 7 projects

Charles Raab will be working as a partner in two EU FP7 projects from February 2012:

PRISMS *The Privacy and Security Mirrors: Towards a European framework for integrated decision making*, investigating the relationship between human privacy and security.

IRISS *Increasing resilience in surveillance societies*, investigating surveillance and the challenges for democracy and an open society, will investigate societal effects of different surveillance practices from a multi-disciplinary social science and legal

perspective. It will focus on the effects that surveillance practices introduced to combat crime and terrorism can have on citizens in open and democratic societies. It will review current research on public attitudes towards surveillance, the impact of surveillance on civil liberties and citizens' trust in political institutions.

The project involves 16 partners across Europe and is being led by the Institute for the [Sociology of Law and Criminology](#), based in Austria.



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Target

The FP7 Target Project started in July 2011 and was successfully completed in November 2011. As we reported in ISSTI Newsletter 19, this led to a conference in Jerusalem in September 2011. The full report published in November 2011 is available at <http://www.targetproject.net/>. For more details, please contact ISSTI researchers alessandro.rosiello@ed.ac.uk or m.mastroeni@ed.ac.uk

CenSES

ISSTI is one of the International Partners for a newly established Centre for Sustainable Energy Studies (CenSES) : Analysing transition strategies towards low-carbon economies, coordinated by Professor Knut H Sørensen at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in Trondheim

Norway has ambitious goals in the energy sector. Norway has the potential to become Europe's leading energy and environment-conscious nation.

CenSES combines the strength of leading Norwegian social science research institutions supported by



international partners and Norwegian stakeholders to meet these challenges

For further details, see the [Centre for Energy & Society website](#) or (in Norwegian) the [CenSES project website](#).

Community

Senior Research Fellow on IT-SAFE Fire Safety programme

We are delighted to welcome Rebecca Slayton as Senior Research Fellow on the *Integrating Technical and Social Aspects of Fire Safety Engineering and Expertise (IT-SAFE)* project. This is a prestigious interdisciplinary programme of social-science research designed to improve fire safety and the quality of our built environment by better integration of social and engineering research, supported by the University of Edinburgh, The Ove Arup Foundation (TOAF), and the Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng).

Rebecca Slayton's research focuses on how scientists and engineers assess the prospects and risks of uncertain technology, and how their assessments become influential in public policy. Her book, *Arguments that Count: Physics, Computing, and Missile Defense* (forthcoming with MIT Press), shows how distinctive forms of expertise can lead to very different conceptions of risk, and how those conceptions change over time.

Slayton earned a PhD in physical chemistry at Harvard University (2002). She then won a National Science Foundation grant to study public discourse about the "Star Wars" missile defence program, in the Science,

Technology, and Society Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 2004, she continued her research as a Fellow in Stanford University's Center for International Security and Cooperation, and then became a lecturer in Stanford's Science, Technology, and Society Program. She is currently a visiting Assistant Professor in the University of Minnesota's History of Science and Technology Program.

Rebecca says of her new role: *"I am delighted to be joining the Ove Arup Foundation and Royal Academy of Engineering initiative in Fire Safety at the University of Edinburgh. Researchers at Edinburgh have been international leaders in social studies of*



Rebecca Slayton

science and technology, and it is truly an honour to join the group. I look forward to an exciting and productive collaboration."



Community



Charles Raab

Charles Raab elected to the Academy of Social Sciences

Politics IR Emeritus **Professor Charles Raab**, a longstanding ISSTI colleague, has been elected an Academician of the UK's Academy of Social Sciences.

Scientific (mis)-Conduct

Daniele Fanelli has appeared twice in *Nature* journals recently.

First in the [22nd December, 2011](#) Issue, to comment on the recent misconduct scandal of Diederik Stapel, "fallen star" of Dutch Social Psychology, then again, in the issue of [11th January, 2012](#), commenting on the spreading of scientific misconduct in China.

In November he was also interviewed live on National Italian Radio 3, in the program RadioTre Scienza, again to comment on Stapel's case.



Daniele Fanelli



Ed Juler

Exquisite Corpses

Ed Juler has just been awarded a three-year post-doctoral fellowship in the medical humanities by the Wellcome Trust.

His project, *The Exquisite Corpse: Surrealism and Anatomy*, will examine the beguiling representations of the human body created by Surrealist artists in Europe during the years c.1920-39 from the standpoint of anatomy and medical discourse.

The project is the result of a fruitful collaboration between the Department of Art History at Edinburgh College of Art and the Science Studies Unit. While based in the ECA, he will be working closely alongside colleagues at the SSU.

Community News from Innogen

The topical relevance of the work of **Innogen** is evident through the increasing number of staff appointed to distinguished bodies. Notable recent appointments include:

Jane Calvert has joined the [Working Group on Ethical Issues in Synthetic Biology](#) for the [Hastings Center](#), New York; **James Smith** was appointed [University of Edinburgh Assistant Principal of Global](#)

[Development](#), and, as we reported in ISSTI Newsletter 19, he has also recently been elected a member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh Young Academy and Trustee and Board member of Practical

Action.

Mariana Mazzucato accepted the RM Phillips Professor in [Science and Technology Policy at the University of Sussex](#)

Iain Gillespie as new Innogen Visiting Professor

We welcome Dr Iain Gillespie as Innogen Visiting Professor. Dr. Gillespie was previously Head of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Science and Technology Policy Division, and prior to that the OECD's Biotechnology Division (2001-2011).

He led OECD's work on open innovation in the life sciences, the development of knowledge markets, and collaborative mechanisms for management of IPRs, as well as more general work on realising the bioeconomy. His other main responsibilities at the OECD were research infrastructure and funding, human resources for science and technology, evaluation and monitoring of innovation systems, governance of international cooperation on science, technology and innovation to meet global challenges, social innovation, demand/supply side integration and societal engagement.

Prior to the OECD, Iain worked in academia (UK and Middle East) and in the biotechnology industry (Agricultural Genetics Co Ltd, Cambridge) before joining government service

in 1991. He held policy posts in the UK Departments of the Environment, of Health and of Trade and Industry as well as in the Cabinet Office where he ran a small policy unit in support of the UK's Chief Scientific Advisor, developing advice on issues as diverse as climate change, human cloning, the use of scientific advice in policy making and risk. Just before joining OECD, Iain was the government's secretary to the Pharmaceutical Industry Competitiveness Task Force (PICTF), reporting to the UK Prime Minister.

Iain is a scientist by training with a PhD in Microbiology. He also holds an MA in International Relations and European Politics and an MBA with specialisms in knowledge management and innovation.

He was educated at the



Iain Gillespie

Universities of Edinburgh, London and Kent at Canterbury, as well as the Open University in the UK.

Research Interests

Dr. Gillespie will be focusing principally on open innovation and knowledge markets in the life sciences, as well as the development of the bioeconomy. He will work with Innogen colleagues to develop new strategic partnership opportunities with the private sector, foundations and others, as well as to concentrate effort on developing our life science innovation consultancy role.

Community

News from the Genomics Forum



Knowledge Brokers Conference is Tweet-tastic!

A capacity audience of 200 delegates attended the Bridging the Gap Between Research, Policy and Practice Conference organised by the ESRC Genomics Policy & Research Forum and held at the Royal Institute of British Architects, London on Wednesday 7 December 2011.

The event, conceived by Dr Christine Knight, ESRC Genomics Forum Policy Research Fellow, was the first of its kind for those engaged in social science research. The focus was on encouraging the sharing of expertise and best practice between professional 'knowledge brokers' and academic researchers who

study knowledge exchange and research use in the social sciences. And share was what delegates did with great enthusiasm.

The conference twitter hashtag: #kbconf registered over 500 tweets as comments and ideas were exchanged on the 20 plus sessions - drawn from areas as diverse as child

protection; the role of think tanks as research mediators; and developing countries.

To review these twitter discussions visit <http://archivist.visitmix.com/genomicsnetwork/3>

For full conference details visit our event page: [Bridging the Gap Between Research, Policy and Practice](#).

Affairs of the Heart

Gengage – The Scottish Healthcare Genetics Public Engagement Network – is to host a deliberative public engagement on Preventing Sudden Cardiac Death among the Young.

Part of the Edinburgh International Science Festival 2012, this innovative event will be hosted simultaneously in Edinburgh, Glasgow and

Aberdeen on Tuesday 3 April 2012.

Developed in conjunction with Familial Arrhythmia Network Scotland (FANS) and British Heart Foundation (BHF), the event will feature a series of short presentations followed by facilitated round-table discussions.

The audience will be invited to 'vote' on a

number of key questions and the views generated will help to inform how this issue is managed in Scotland.

For more details and to book visit the [gengage website](http://www.gengage.org.uk/gengage-events.php?id=174) <http://www.gengage.org.uk/gengage-events.php?id=174>

gengage

Community

News from the Genomics Forum

New ECRR chairman

Genomics Forum Director, Professor Steve Yearley, has become the new Executive Committee Chairman of the Edinburgh Consortium for Rural Research (ECRR).

Professor Yearley commented,

"I feel very honoured to be elected by the Edinburgh Consortium on Rural Research (ECRR) membership to the post of Executive Committee Chairman, a role that will be for 3 years in the first instance.

"The ECRR does valuable work in helping its member organisations to work together on rural and environmental issues in Scotland, in promoting inter-disciplinary research and sharing specialised facilities. It also



Steve Yearley

provides an accessible source of expertise and information on scientific matters that affect rural Scotland, its people and its natural heritage. I'm looking forward to being an active member of this community and to trying to help stimulate novel initiatives."

The Edinburgh Consortium for Rural Research includes farming, forestry, aquaculture and recreational pursuits. For more visit:

<http://www.ecrr.org.uk>



I need expert advice on...

Need to find an expert?

The ESRC Genomics Network Directors, Research Fellows, Students and Visiting Fellows have wide ranging research interests and come from a number of disciplinary backgrounds. Finding the most appropriate individuals for enquiries can be tricky but thanks to a new web feature individuals can now be identified by particular research interests

Visit our Network staff page and simply click on any of the listed topics to reveal the staff working in this area.

<http://www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/esrcgenomicsnetwork/people/>

A tag cloud feature is also now included on the Genomics Network Research pages to help visitors identify the full range of activity associated with each research topic.

Try it out by visiting:

<http://www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/esrcgenomicsnetwork/research/>

Alumni news

Electro Mobility: Sino-European Cooperation on Standardisation and Certification

Since October 2011 Martina Gerst, ISSTI alumna and Visiting Research Fellow of The University of Edinburgh, currently working in China, hosted by the Tsinghua University, Beijing and Klaus Ziegler, the Seconded Standardisation Expert of the European Commission, have been awarded a feasibility study on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi), Germany, aiming for harmonisation of Electro Mobility (E-Mobility) Standards and Certification.



The first expert workshop took place in Beijing in November

The objective of the study is to implement joint Sino-European research between governmental institutions and the industry involved in E-mobility on harmonisation of standards and certification systems, and to develop a concrete programme for further bi-lateral projects.

E-Mobility is a breakthrough

innovation that requires a new, cross-sectoral systems thinking. The challenge in this research area is to coordinate and integrate diverse activities in different sectors in order to meet demands effectively.

During the 7 months of the project, the Chinese experts will visit Europe to learn more about European

standardisation and certification and to exchange information and experiences.

In November 2011, the first expert workshop took place in Beijing. For further information please contact Martina Gerst: martina.gerst@ed.ac.uk

Call for Papers

7th Mediterranean Conference on Information Systems (MCIS) 2012

Track: eGovernment in the Mediterranean Context and Beyond
Submission deadline: 9th March 2012

Organised by: [Nancy Pouloudi](#) (Athens University of Economics and Business) [Gian Marco Campagnolo](#) (University of Edinburgh) [Gianluigi Viscusi](#) (University of Milan Bicocca).
This track invites research and research-in-progress

papers, posters and panels, conceptual and review papers as well as empirical studies, that bring to the fore the challenges of eGovernment research and practice. Papers with a focus on the

Mediterranean region, as well as cross-country comparative analyses, are particularly welcome.

Please contact the track chairs for more information.

Books

Emerging Technological Risk: Underpinning the Risk of Technology Innovation

Stuart Anderson & Massimo Felici
Springer, 2012

This book brings together findings from the EPSRC [Dependability of computer based systems Interdisciplinary Research Collaboration](http://www.dirc.org.uk) (www.dirc.org.uk), an interdisciplinary collaboration of social scientists and computer scientists in 5 UK Universities.

- Complements and extends classical approaches to risk.
- Includes an annotated bibliography, which forms a comprehensive multidisciplinary account of technology risk
- Identifies and explains socio-technical hazards by means of different case studies.

Classes of socio-technical hazards allow a characterisation of the risk in technology innovation and clarify the mechanisms underpinning emergent technological risk.

Emerging Technological Risk provides an interdisciplinary account of risk in socio-



technical systems including hazards which highlight:

- How technological risk crosses organisational boundaries;
- How technological trajectories and evolution develop from resolving tensions emerging between social aspects of organisations and technologies; and

- How social behaviour shapes, and is shaped by, technology.

Addressing an audience from a range of academic and professional backgrounds, *Emerging Technological Risk* is a key source for those who wish to benefit from a detailed and methodical exposure to multiple perspectives on technological risk.

By providing a synthesis of recent work on risk that captures the complex mechanisms that characterize the emergence of risk in technology innovation, *Emerging Technological Risk* bridges contributions from many disciplines in order to sustain a fruitful debate.

Emerging Technological Risk is one of a series of books developed by the [Dependability Interdisciplinary Research Collaboration \(DIRC\)](http://www.dirc.org.uk) funded by the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.

Sociological Reflections on the Neurosciences

ISSTI member Dr Martyn Pickersgill is lead editor of the latest volume in the Emerald Advances in Medical Sociology book series.

The neurosciences are more than a collection of scientific practices - they offer up new ways of thinking about mind, body and society. Up to now, debate about the 'new brain sciences' has been limited within sociology and science and technology studies. Yet, as the neurosciences gain ever more traction within professional arenas, policy processes and popular culture, it is time to go beyond the primarily speculative and theoretical analyses we have had to date.

This collection - the first book to take an explicitly sociological imagination to neuroscience - addresses this need through empirically rich,

theoretically innovative chapters that range across methods, traditions and foci in order to cast new light on the place, role and impact of neuroscience in and on society. At the same time, this volume reflects on the insights the neurosciences have to offer sociology.

Contributors include Erin Conrad, Raymond De Vries, Stephen Katz, Paul Martin, Rayna Rapp, Sara Shostak, Miranda Waggoner, and Simon Williams. A paperback of the volume is also due in spring 2012.

Martyn is Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow in Biomedical Ethics in the

Centre for Population Health Sciences. He has previously received funding from the Newby Trust and ESRC for research on the social and ethical dimensions of neuroscience.

Martyn is part of the Manchester/Edinburgh Wellcome Trust Strategic Award in Biomedical Ethics, 'The Human Body: Its Scope, Limits and Future', an inaugural member of the Young Academy of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and a member of the Editorial Board of the journal *Sociology of Health and Illness*. Over 2011, he has been a Wellcome Trust 75th Anniversary Public Engagement Ambassador.

Material Worlds: Intersections of Law, Science, Technology and Society

Chris Lawless and Alex Faulkner (eds) Wiley-Blackwell – also to be published as the March 2012 Special Issue of *Journal of Law and Society* (Vol 39, No 1)

This collection highlights the growing body of research operating on the intersection between Socio-Legal Studies (S-LS) and Science and Technology Studies (STS).

In introducing a variety of studies, the volume demonstrates the directions that this process of engagement may take.. Together, the collection shows how the relationship between

law and materiality is a particularly relevant meeting-point, through which S-LS and STS can combine to produce a range of fruitful insights.

This theme is able to encompass a wide range of empirical topics, while also providing a focus for critical reflection on the futures of STS and S-LS, and the nature of cross-disciplinary

research more widely.

In addressing the concept of materiality, the collection illuminates a series of other themes, such as: the relationships between transnational regulation and flexibilities of local material practices; the 'enactment' (both legal and social) of human material bodies; and the relation between social agency and material worlds.

Upcoming events

February 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	1	2	3

Thursday 23rd February

ESRC Genomics Policy and Research Forum & The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities

The Outbreak Narrative: Disease Emergence and the Obscured Geography of Poverty

Seminar

Speaker: Priscilla Wald
Professor of English, Duke University <http://bit.ly/s8egwh>

Accounts of newly surfacing diseases appeared with increasing frequency following the introduction of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in the mid-1980s.

These stories have consequences. As they disseminate information, they affect survival rates

and contagion routes. They promote or mitigate the stigmatizing of individuals, groups, populations, spaces, and lifestyles, and they change economies, and influence how we imagine the threat and why we react so fearfully to some disease outbreaks and not others.

Further information about this event:

<http://www.genomics-network.ac.uk/forum/events/title,25412,en.html>

Any queries please contact:
forum@genomicsnetwork.ac.uk

Tel: 0131 651 4740

Attendance is free but please book online using Eventbrite to secure your place:

<http://waldlecture.eventbrite.co.uk/>

23rd February 2012 15:30

Room S37 (second floor)

Psychology Building

7 George Square

Edinburgh

EH8 9JZ

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Thursday 8th March 2012

ESRC Genomics Policy & Research Forum

ConSequences: Some implications of DNA sequencing technology

Public event

Speaker: Robert Cook-Deegan
Director, IGSP Center for Genome Ethics, Law & Policy, Duke University
<http://www.genome.duke.edu/directory/faculty/cook-deegan/>

The compounding effects of cheaper and faster computing technology led to wondrous new possibilities, but also cyberstalking, cyberbullying, cyberporn, identity theft, and loss of privacy.

Will DNA sequencing technology be similarly disruptive?

Debate to date has focused on medical uses of genomic data. Use of genomic data in clinical care and wellness will indeed become more extensive, but other uses may be at least as important. Both rules and infrastructure are being constructed, and getting it right will matter.

Further information about this event: <http://www.genomics-network.ac.uk/forum/events/title,25413,en.html>

Any queries please contact:
forum@genomicsnetwork.ac.uk

0131 651 4740

Attendance is free but please book online using Eventbrite to secure your place:

<http://cookdeeganlecture.eventbrite.com>

8th March 2012 17:00, followed by a drinks reception 18:30 - 19.30

Anatomy lecture theatre

Doorway 3, Medical School, Teviot Place, Edinburgh

Upcoming events

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Monday 12th March 2012

Innogen Seminar

How journal rankings can suppress interdisciplinary research: The case of Innovation Studies vs. Business & Management

Speaker: Dr Ismael Rafols
SPRU, University of Sussex

While interdisciplinary research is valued, it is also widely perceived as being at a disadvantage in research evaluations. However, quantitative studies on this claim have been few and inconclusive.

Using publication and citation data, this investigation illustrates how ostensibly 'excellence-based' journal rankings exhibit a systematic bias in favour of mono-disciplinary research.

For updates visit: http://www.stis.ed.ac.uk/events/innogen_seminars/2011_2012/

dr_ismael_rafols_spru_university_of_sussex

Any queries please contact:

Angela.McEwan@ed.ac.uk

0131 650 9113

12th March 2012 15:30 – 17:00

**Seminar Room 1.06,
Old Surgeons' Hall,
High School Yards,
Edinburgh**

Thursday, 29th March, 2012

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

National Museum of Scotland/ISSTI

Understanding Technology series

The Secrecy and Counterculture of Holography

What links the Cold War, Pop Art, American car manufacturers and communes? Holography, the technology of three-dimensional imaging, bridged these events and entities.

Speaker: Dr Sean Johnston, History of science & technology, Glasgow University.

This talk will explore the environments in which holography developed, and the new experts who evolved with it. It will argue that the subject grew into dissimilar forms to suit the distinct goals of its various communities.

Holograms embodied scientific preconceptions, engineering judgements, aesthetic values, market assumptions and, for a time,

political dimensions. The talk will suggest that this co-development by separate technical groups can reveal cultural assumptions about progress, and why our technological stories can too easily misrepresent a hidden history.

Dr. Sean Johnston is a reader in the history of science & technology at Glasgow University.

The lecture is free but space is limited and anyone interested in attending should register with Maureen Kerr at

0131 247 4274

or e-mail

m.kerr@nms.ac.uk

or book now on

0300 123 6789

29th March 2012 15:00

**Learning Centre,
National Museum of
Scotland**

Organised by Klaus Staubermann of NMS, in association with ISSTI

We will hold the lecture in memory of Dr Stewart Russell.

Upcoming events

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Thursday 29 March 2012

ESRC Genomics Forum Public event

It's Talent night in the Fly Room.

With Peter Arnott, the ESRC Genomics's Forum Resident Playwright appointed in partnership with the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh.

For one night only - Songs and poems and sketches and stories from the genome that brought you Peter Arnott's plays The Breathing House, White Rose and many more.

Further details: visit <http://www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/forum/events/title,25349,en.html>

Or contact Traverse Box office
Box Office: 0131 228 1404.
Tickets cost £6.

29th March 2012 19:30

**Traverse Two
Traverse Theatre**

10 Cambridge Street
Edinburgh
EH1 2ED

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

30th-31st March 2012

First Mini-Conference on Knowledge and Learning

Charting New Waters and Building New Bridges

Speakers:

Professor Brian Pentland,
Michigan State University:

Networks of Action in a Digital World

Professor Bart Nooteboom,
Tilburg University: **Logic for a Variety of Knowledge Communities**

Professor Lars Hakanson,
Copenhagen Business School
The role of Epistemic Communities in the Governance of Knowledge Processes

Dr Susan Scott, The London School of Economics:
Exploring the Material Grounds of User-Generated Content: Reconfiguring Knowledge Practices in the Hospitality Sector

Knowledge, Learning and Information Systems are amongst the priorities of organisations, and they have attracted considerable attention from scholars

Besides, the emerging field of Practice Theory has changed the viewpoint of conventional knowledge creation and transfer to the replication of routines and capabilities in everyday social practices.

In order to bring together academics, senior and junior researchers, and also doctoral students to exchange and share their intellectual experiences and research results in these fields, and to find what the future holds for this area of research we organise this mini-conference as the beginning of a dialogue about "Knowledge and Learning" and the establishment of an active network among scholars.

The first mini-conference "Charting New Waters and Building New Bridges" aims to highlight the critical aspect in collective understanding of Knowledge, Routines, and Information Systems as a

new area of research and to discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted in the field of learning using cross disciplinary approaches.

Therefore, it is intended that the focus of the conference is on methodologies, practices and projections for further research agendas.

For further details, please visit: <http://www.business-school.ed.ac.uk/about/school-events?a=44221>

Contact:

[Elizabeth Montoya e.montoya-martinez@sms.ed.ac.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.Montoya@sms.ed.ac.uk)

30th March 2012 09:00 – 31st Mar 2012 19:30

**Conference Suite,
Business School**
29 Buccleuch Place
Edinburgh
EH8 9JS

Upcoming events

April 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th April 2012

ESRC Genomics in Society: Facts, Fictions & Cultures

The British Library, London Egenis Conference

The ESRC Genomics Network (EGN) was established in 2002, and this 2012 conference organised by Egenis, one of the Network partners, will present the scope of research excellence in the social sciences of current bioscience innovation and celebrate a decade of academic achievement in the social sciences.

Speakers at the conference

will present new research on a wide range of topics including: prenatal testing, direct-to-consumer genetic testing, whole genome sequencing, regulatory strategies, forensic genetics, synthetic biology, and genomics and the creative arts.

There will also be panels featuring special presentations from each of the four ESRC Genomics Centres, including

Edinburgh University's Innogen and Genomics Forum and from the EGN's 'Genomics and identity politics' workstream.

Secure your place now and register via the conference website:

www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/egenis/conference2012/
or email: egenis@genomics-network.ac.uk

April 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Monday 30th April 2012 - ISSTI Seminar

Dr Jane Gregory, University College London

Seminar Room 1.06, Old Surgeons' Hall, High School Yards

Title and Abstract to follow

For updates visit: http://www.stis.ed.ac.uk/events/issti/2011_2012/dr_jane_gregory,_university_college_london

June 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday 11th June 2012 Innogen Seminar

Dr Peira Morlacchi, SPRU, University of Sussex

Title and Abstract to follow

For updates visit: http://www.stis.ed.ac.uk/events/issti/2011_2012/dr_piera_morlacchi,_spru,_university_of_sussex

Publications

Christine Grimm (2012). *Inside a secret software laboratory: an ethnographic study of a global software package producer*. Gabler Verlag.

ISBN-13: 978-3834933867 (This is the book of Christine's PhD thesis at ISSTI)

Nils Markusson, Florian Kern, Jim Watson, Stathis Arapostathis, Hannah Chalmers, Navraj Ghaleigh, Philip Heptonstall, Peter Pearson, David Rossati, & Stewart Russell (in press). *A socio-technical framework for assessing the viability of carbon capture and storage technology*. Technological Forecasting and Social Change. Available online 4 January 2012.

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy.webfeat.lib.ed.ac.uk/10.1016/j.techfore.2011.12.001>