

Welcome

We are very excited to welcome Professor Dave Wield to the University of Edinburgh to lead the second phase of our ESRC Centre for Social and Economic Research on Innovation in Genomics (Innogen). Innogen is the flagship project for ISSTI. The large scale, long-term funding we have secured provides an opportunity to open up new research agendas and aids our efforts to 'mainstream' science and technology studies, developing and establishing this growing field of interdisciplinary enquiry. At the same time we are consolidating a parallel strand of research in energy and environment policy with, for example, the ProHeatPump project reported in this issue, and continue to research the social implications and applications of ICT – as we report here, the uses of the mobile phone seem limitless! We have a busy schedule of events planned for the autumn ranging from international conferences to training workshops and research seminars – please join us if you can.

Innogen Enters its Second Phase



October 1st marks the beginning of Phase 2 (2007–2012) of Innogen – our ESRC Centre for Social and Economic Research on Innovation in Genomics. The contract currently being finalised with the UK Economic and Social Research Council will bring over £5.2 million over five years from 1 October 2007, together with three centre-based doctoral studentships, for the University of Edinburgh and the Open University.

The five year research strategy mapped out over a year ago is now being turned into concrete projects and Innogen staff are currently working to build the first year's programme which will focus on the evolving new life science economy; and on governance and regulation of the new life sciences. New projects will begin on:

- big and small company innovation strategies
 - translational research (including a new course on translational medicine)
 - stem cell research
 - the emergence of new areas of genomics and post-genomics such as systems biology and synthetic biology
 - global bio-health partnerships, access and inclusion, and the limits of multi-level governance
 - governing identity transformations in the post-genomic age; and into forms and styles of participation
- and that is just a selection...

The ESRC Genomics Network will be launching its new visual identity at its first Annual Conference on 25–26 October in London (see p.6 for details) which will mean, among other things, a new Innogen website www.innogen.ac.uk. We hope you will be able to join us in London and will visit our new website soon.



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Staff and Visitors

Professor Dave Wield will relocate from the Open University to Edinburgh to take on the role of Director of the ESRC Innogen Centre as it enters its second phase although Professor Joyce Tait will stay very much involved as Scientific Advisor. Professor Robin Williams remains as Co-Director at Edinburgh with Professor Joanna Chataway taking on the role of Co-Director at the Open University. Dr James Smith takes on the role of Director of Developing Country Research and Dr Peter Robbins will be Joanna's deputy at the Open University.



Dr Catherine Lyall has been promoted to the new post of Deputy Director and Centre Manager in the ESRC Innogen Centre, starting 1 October. Catherine has worked at Edinburgh in a variety of research and research development roles for the past eight years. Her research interests span science policy and the governance of science and innovation; knowledge transfer into public policy; and the management and evaluation of interdisciplinary research. She is currently leading an ESRC Researcher Development Initiative grant which seeks to provide interdisciplinary research training for postgraduates and postdoctoral researchers – see page 6 for details of the first workshop in December.

A few other staff changes mark the beginning of the second phase of the Innogen grant. Having completed her MSc part-time while working as Innogen Project Manager, Julie Hamilton has now left to study for her PhD full-time. She will be based at the Queen's Medical Research Institute, Little France where she will be studying the mechanisms regulating the innate immune response during pregnancy. As Project Manager, Julie skilfully piloted Innogen through its mid-term review and the preparatory stages of Phase 2. Her busy communications role will be taken over by a new Innogen Centre Communications and Networking Officer who will be appointed shortly.



One of our first Innogen PhD students, Becky Hanlin, will be also be leaving Edinburgh but not Innogen as she has been appointed to a lectureship within the Development Policy and Practice group at the Open University and will remain in the Innogen team.

Visitors

Over the summer, Dr Fumi Kitagawa from the Department of Higher Education, National Institute for Educational Policy Research in Tokyo visited ISSTI in order to conduct interviews in Scotland in connection with her research on the Scottish Funding Council's research pooling initiative.

Constance Sommers joins us until the end of December as a research intern from the University of Maastricht where she is in the second year of her MPhil in Cultures of Arts, Science, and Technology.

Dr C. Dilrukshi Wijayarathna from the Science and Technology Policy Research Division of the National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka will be visiting ISSTI until mid-November. Dilrukshi has wide-ranging interests in S&T policy areas and can be contacted by phone on 0131 650 6389 or e-mail at: dilrukshi@nsf.ac.lk

Student Successes

Congratulations to two of our PhD students who successfully defended their theses over the summer:

- Mei Wang: *Cultivating the 'Generic Solution': The Shaping of Organizational Software Packages*
- Nils Markusson: *'Cleaner innovation'? A political process approach to environmental aspects of process technology innovations*

Mei has taken a position with the technology consultancy Capgemini; we are sad she is leaving us but pleased that she will continue to be based in Edinburgh. Nils continues to work with us and is currently employed on the ProHeatPump project.

Congratulations too to students Nicola Marks and Olga Morawczynski. Nicola has been appointed as a researcher on the Talking about Stem Cells project www.talkingstemcells.ed.ac.uk and Olga has won a Microsoft Research PhD Scholarship to fund her work on mobile payment (m-payment) applications in developing countries.

Finally, a paper by Claire Buré (MSc 2003) based on her dissertation research – *Digital Inclusion without Social Inclusion: The consumption of information and communication technologies (ICTs) within homeless subculture in Scotland* – has been chosen by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) as one of the top 200 papers for their information and communication for development portal. A demo version of the portal is currently available www.dcern.org

Research News

PhD student Isabel Fletcher reports on ISSTI's annual student Work in Progress conference

The 2007 STS Work in Progress Conference took place on 13 June. It was an enjoyable and intellectually stimulating event due to the high standard and varied nature of the presentations.

In the morning presentation topics included GPs' attitudes towards abortion decision-making; the role of public private partnerships in AIDS vaccine development; the history of theories of disease causation in 19th century Columbia; and lastly an ethnography of mobile phone banking in Kenya. A sandwich lunch was kindly provided by the Science Studies Unit.

The afternoon session presentations covered an analysis of the idea of gentlemanly capitalism; the role of forensic evidence in prosecuting sexual assault cases; the concept of the bootstrapped artefact and its relation to performative theories of social institutions; the post-hoc use of psychiatric evidence in 19th century Scottish criminal cases; and finally the role of values in environmental research.

As usual the conference provided a valuable opportunity to understand more fully the research of postgraduate colleagues throughout the ISSTI community in an informal and supportive atmosphere. The resulting exchanges between participants and members of staff led to lively and informative discussions throughout the day.

Finally, as the conference organiser, I would like to thank Carole Tansley for her invaluable assistance in making this event a success.

What do you do with your mobile phone?

An item on the BBC News website <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/technology/6938244.stm> describes how researchers on the Branded Meeting Places Project at the University of Edinburgh (ISSTI, Informatics and ACE) in partnership with spinout firm Mobile Acuity, are using an image-matching system called Spellbinder developed by Dr Mark Wright to adorn the real world with digital content. A new research methodology developed in the Branded Meeting Places project, called Research by Design, provides 'designer-users' with tool kits of technologies to create applications that inform the design and social science research questions. The BBC reported on a number applications developed by designers in the project. The invisible Art Project allows artists to paint virtual art works on buildings around the city that can be 'revealed' by anyone taking and sending a picture of the building. In a few seconds they receive an identical picture back with the art work superimposed. At the heart of the technology is a database of all the places that participants have added data to. People query it by taking a snap of a location with their phone then use multimedia text messages to send it to Spellbinder system. Although Spellbinder has been used to spot locations it could, said Dr Wright, be used to match almost anything: "With Spellbinder, the real world becomes a computational resource," he said. The Branded Meeting Places project <http://ace.caad.ed.ac.uk/branded/> uses design techniques to explore how people use city spaces to meet and use new technologies to appropriate and give meanings to those places.



The project was unveiled at the Siggraph show held in San Diego, US from 5-9 August.

In another novel use of the mobile phone, Dr Claudia Pagliari (Community Health Sciences) is contributing to a project funded by Asthma UK for a mobile phone based structured intervention to achieve asthma control in patients with uncontrolled persistent asthma <http://clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT00512837>.

ProHeatPump

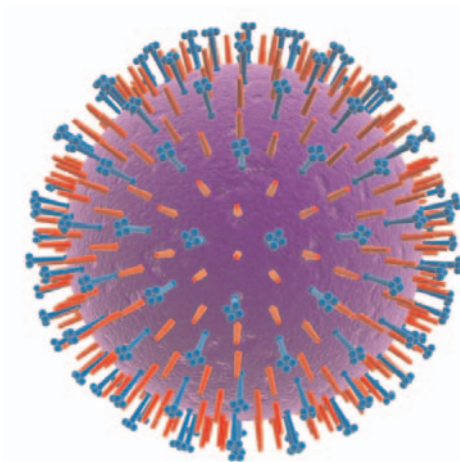
At the beginning of September ISSTI hosted the second meeting of the European *ProHeatPump* project, welcoming eight partners from Germany, Sweden, France and Bulgaria. The meeting reviewed progress on the project's assessment of the market potential for energy-efficient heat pumps in the partner countries and of their policies and support schemes. A special session compared the widely varying experience across Europe, and guests Linda Sheridan of the *Scottish Building Standards Agency*, and Jason Leon of the energy and environment NGO *Changeworks*, gave useful insights into the difficulties of increasing the uptake of the technology in the UK context.

The *ProHeatPump* project is supported by Intelligent Energy - Europe and started in December last year. For more information, see <http://www.proheatpump.eu/>



Pandemic Flu

Joyce Tait will be leading an important policy study for ESRC in partnership with Professor Tony Barnett (LSE) and Professor Francis Drobniowski (Health Protection Agency and University of London) on Behavioural Responses to Pandemic Influenza (PI) in the UK. This project will build on research by the Innogen Centre as part of the Office of Science and Innovation (OSI) Foresight project on Detection and Identification of Infectious Diseases (www.foresight.gov.uk/Previous_Projects/Detection_and_Identification_of_Infectious_Diseases/Index.htm) and will consider the robustness of existing models of PI spread and current plans for PI containment. The research team will use a model which considers changes in sources and pathways of disease spread as they affect the emergence of infectious disease pandemics, along with the socio-economic and behavioural drivers that can amplify or mitigate these epidemiological factors.



China Standards

Robin Williams and James Stewart from RCSS together with Ian Graham and Xiaobai Shen from the School of Management and Economics have been awarded €370 060 under the European Union 7th Framework Programme to lead an international research collaboration looking at China's increasing role in developing standards for Information and Communication Technologies, and the implications for the ICT sector in Europe, China and beyond.

Recent ISSTI publications

- MacKenzie, Donald, Muniesa, Fabian and Siu, Lucia (2007) *Do economists make markets?: on the performativity of economics*. Oxford, Princeton University Press
- Pinnock H, Slack R, Pagliari C, Price D, Sheikh A (2007) "Understanding the potential role of mobile phone-based monitoring on asthma self-management: qualitative study", *Clinical and Experimental Allergy*, 37, 794-802 www.blackwell-synergy.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/j.1365-2222.2007.02708.x
- Pagliari C, Detmer D, Singleton P (2007) "Potential of Electronic Personal Health Records" *BMJ* 335: 330-333 (18 August) www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/335/7615/330
- Pagliari C, Detmer D, Singleton P (2007) "Electronic Personal Health Records – Emergence and implications for the UK. London: Nuffield Trust www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/ecomm/files/Elec%20Personal%20Records%20II.pdf
- Pagliari C. (2007) "Design and Evaluation in eHealth: Challenges and Implications for an Interdisciplinary Field", *Journal of Medical Internet Research* 9(2) www.jmir.org/2007/2/e15
- Rosiello, Alessandro (2007) "The geography of knowledge transfer and innovation in biotechnology : the cases of Scotland, Sweden and Denmark", *European Planning Studies*, 15/6: 787-815

- Shen, Xiaobai, Duan, Yibing and Zhang, Siguang (2007) "The development of SARS vaccine in China : a reflection on public and private sector roles", International Journal of Technology Management and Sustainable Development, 6/1:25-37
- Stewart, James (2007) "Local experts in the domestication of information and communication technologies", Information Communication & Society, 10/ 4:547-569

ISSTI Briefing Notes

www.issti.ed.ac.uk/publications/briefingnotes :

- Short Guide to Developing Interdisciplinary Research Proposals, (Professor Joyce Tait and Dr Catherine Lyall)
- Short Guide to Reviewing Interdisciplinary Research Proposals, (Dr Catherine Lyall, Ann Bruce, Professor Joyce Tait and Dr Laura Meagher)
- Short Guide to Building and Managing Interdisciplinary Research Teams, (Dr Catherine Lyall and Dr Laura Meagher)

AlumiSTS



Professor Anne Kerr

Anne Kerr studied at the Research Centre for Social Sciences in the early 1990s, where she also met her husband, Brian Woods. She completed the MSc in Technology Studies (1991) and went on to do a PhD, with Wendy Faulkner and Liz Bondi as supervisors, on gender and science (graduating in 1995). Anne then worked as a Research Fellow in the Department of Public Health Sciences, on an ESRC project on the social impact of the new genetics with Sarah Cunningham-Burley and Amanda Amos, before obtaining a Wellcome Fellowship in the History of Medicine to study the history of cystic fibrosis, moving to the Science Studies Unit, under the sponsorship of Steve Sturdy. Anne went on to a lectureship in Sociology at the University of York in 2001 and was appointed Professor of Sociology at the University of Leeds in 2006. Her research interests are primarily in the fields of science and technology studies and the sociology of health and illness, especially gender, genetics and reproduction. She is currently involved in a number of research collaborations with colleagues at the University of York, including an ESRC Science in Society project on the ethics of embryo research and assisted conception (with Henry Leese), an ESRC project on the sociology of food allergy (with Brian Woods, Sarah Nettleton and Roger Burrows), and an EU FP6 Science and Society Programme project on 'Knowledge, Institutions and Gender: an East West Comparative Study' (with Lisa Garforth at Leeds and Amanda Rees at York). Her interest and involvement in this latter project stems from her PhD work in Edinburgh on feminist epistemology in practice.

The dynamics of expertise, particularly between and amongst professionals and so-called 'lay people' is one of her major interests. This has involved research into the social construction of cystic fibrosis, analysis of professional discourses around eugenics, and a re-evaluation of lay people's understandings of genetics that stresses the sophisticated ways in which people make sense of science and medicine in the context of their everyday lives (the result of a long-standing collaboration with Sarah Cunningham-Burley). Gender is integral to much of this analysis, given the focus upon reproductive intervention in contemporary genetics. Her recent work on the ethics of embryo research, focuses upon the so-called 'rise of regulation' in assisted conception and what this means in practice. The gendered dynamics of public and private aspects of knowledge production and practice are also of interest in the Knowing project, as are the ways in which notions of success and career are gendered.

Her most recent publications include:

Kerr, A. Cunningham-Burley, S. and Tutton, R. 'Shifting Subject Positions: Experts and Lay People in Public Discourse' Social Studies of Science, Vol. 37 No. 3. (June 2007)

Kerr, A. Understanding Genetic Disease in Socio-historical Context: A Case Study of Cystic Fibrosis', Sociology of Health and Illness 27, 7, 2005: 873-896

Kerr, A. Genetics and Society London: Routledge pp 197 2004.

Forthcoming Events



ESRC Genomics Network

Genomics and Society:

Today's Answers, Tomorrow's Questions

25-26 October 2007,

One Great George Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3AA

Today's Answers, Tomorrow's Questions brings policy makers and natural scientists together with ESRC Genomics Network (EGN) social scientists for a landmark event. Featuring lectures, debates, workshops and exhibitions, we hope you will take part in this cross-fertilisation of ideas and healthy disagreement on the past, present and future roles of genomics in society.

Marking the transition to a new 5 year phase of EGN funding and research programmes, this event profiles important Network research findings and takes a forward look to new key questions at the intersection of science and society. The EGN comprises the research centres Cesagen, Egenis, Innogen and the ESRC Genomics Policy and Research Forum.

Who should attend: social scientists, policy makers, scientists with an interest in how science and society influence each other, voluntary organisations, media, health practitioners, businesses involved in new technologies.

Programme material and registration details are available on www.genomicsandsociety.org

Queries can be sent to the ESRC Genomics Forum at genomics.forum@ed.ac.uk, or call on 0131 651 4747

ISSTI Interdisciplinary Masterclass for Postgraduates, 3-5 December 2007, Edinburgh

This workshop is aimed at postgraduate researchers involved in designing, managing and carrying out interdisciplinary research projects which span the social and natural sciences. It will address key themes such as:

- different models of interdisciplinarity and the impact this has on research design
- developing and communicating understanding of socio-economic dimensions of complex technical issues
- the challenges of interviewing technical people
- how to frame an integrated final report/thesis
- appropriate dissemination for different audiences



This workshop is open to any ESRC-funded PhD students who are engaged in interdisciplinary research between the social and natural sciences (including students who are funded via cross-council initiatives such as the ESRC-NERC and ESRC-MRC joint studentships and cross-council programmes such as RELU).

There will be no charge for this event, which will include accommodation and meals, but attendees must be able to cover their own travel expenses. The meeting will run from Monday afternoon to Wednesday lunchtime.

Register online at: www.crfr.ac.uk/events/isstibooking.html

As places will be limited to 25, participants are encouraged to register early for the workshop. For further details go to www.issti.ed.ac.uk/news#67. Any queries can be directed to Dr Catherine Lyall c.lyall@ed.ac.uk

Seminars

ISSTI & Innogen Seminar Programmes for Autumn 2007

Unless otherwise notified all events take place 3.30-5pm, in seminar room 1.06 Old Surgeons' Hall, High School Yards.

See www.issti.ed.ac.uk/events for further information and abstracts

Monday 24th September – ISSTI Seminar

Professor Geoff Walsham, Judge Business School, University of Cambridge

"Balancing Local Knowledge Within Global Organisations through Computer-based Systems: An Activity Theory Approach"

Tuesday 25th September – Innogen Seminar

Professor Stuart Blume, Amsterdam School of Social Science

"Data in context: the vicissitudes of vaccine innovation"

3-4.30pm, ** PLEASE NOTE CHANGE TO USUAL START TIME**

Monday 8th October – Innogen Seminar

Professor Steve Hughes, Egenis, University of Exeter

"A personal narrative of journeys through the genomic continent"

Monday 22nd October – ISSTI Seminar

Dr Marloes van Amerom, Faculty of Business, Public Administration and Technology, University of Twente

"Actor-Strategies & Actor-Constellations in the Nanotech Risk Debate"

Monday 12th November – ISSTI Seminar

Martin Richards, Emeritus Professor of Family Research, University of Cambridge

"Artificial Insemination and Eugenics: celibate motherhood, euteleogenesis and germinal choice"

Monday 19th November – ISSTI Seminar

Professor Robin Roy, Design Innovation Group, The Open University

Monday 3rd December – Innogen Seminar

Professor Stan Metcalfe, Economics, Manchester University

"Alfred Marshall on Management, Innovation, and Innovation Systems"

Monday 10th December – ISSTI Seminar

Professor Mario Biagioli (History of Science, Harvard University) &

Professor Simon Schaffer (History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge)

2.30-5pm, followed by reception, Venue to be confirmed

Professor Simon Schaffer - "Public experiments and the trials of social order"

Professor Mario Biagioli - "Denaturalizing the public domain: How to use science studies to rethink IP"

Attendees **must pre-register** for this event. In order to secure a place, please email Angela.McEwan@ed.ac.uk or call 0131 650 9113.

Governance of New Technologies: The Transformation of Medicine, Information Technology and Intellectual Property

SCRIPT-ed conference, March 29-31, 2009.

The "Governance of New Technologies" conference is an international and interdisciplinary conference focusing on the governance of new and evolving technologies, and the consequences of these technologies for the law and for society more generally. The conference will consider developments in, and governance and social implications of, new and evolving technologies and practices within the context of three primary and overlapping streams of:

- medicine and healthcare
- information and communication technology
- intellectual property, which impacts both

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Though of interest to anyone interested in new technologies and their relationship with and impact on society and/or the law, the conference is particularly aimed at postgraduate students and early career researchers.

PAPER & POSTER SUBMISSION: Those interested in presenting either a paper or a poster at the "Governance of New Technologies" conference should submit an abstract of no more than 250 words to editors.scripted@ed.ac.uk, identifying the conference title in the subject line.

REGISTRATION: Attendance is £25 for STUDENTS and £50 for NON-STUDENTS. The Conference Fee covers the Conference Welcome Reception (March 29, 2009), the Conference Dinner and Ceilidh (March 30, 2009), Conference Lunches (March 30-31), and refreshments during the various tea/coffee breaks (March 30-31). For enquiries and early registrations contact editors.scripted@ed.ac.uk

Other Research News in Brief

- Professor Joyce Tait has been appointed as a Board Member for the Scottish Stem Cell Network Ltd
- Professor Joyce Tait will meet a US delegation to Edinburgh on 15 October which has been arranged by the British Embassy in Washington DC with the aim of discussing international perspectives on the ethical and social issues related to stem cell research
- Dr James Mittra will give a presentation to the European Stem Cells Business Summit in Edinburgh 11-12 October on "Risk governance and regulation of stem cells as therapeutic products". Joyce Tait will contribute to a panel discussion on "Lessons from monoclonal antibodies and GM crops: fast track to market and public acceptance" www.stemcellseurope.org
- Dr James Mittra has been invited to join the Centre for Prospective Regulation, a virtual centre directed by Dr Graham Lewis at the University of York <http://php.york.ac.uk/fs/soci15/wordpress>
- Innogen colleagues will participate in the Global Forum for Health Research in Beijing October 29 - November 2. Rebecca Hanlin will chair a roundtable on innovation systems and Innogen is arranging a special session to discuss evaluation of health product development partnerships
- Gill Haddow returns from maternity leave this month and will be working four days per week
- Innogen colleagues Joanna Chataway, Dinar Kale and Dave Wield have edited a special issue of *Technology Analysis and Strategic Management* on The Indian Pharmaceutical Industry before and after TRIPS
- Dr Wendy Faulkner's Gender of/in Engineering project has been rated outstanding in its end-of-award assessment