

Call for papers S.NET 4th Annual Meeting

University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands

October 22-25, 2012

Invitation

S.NET invites contributions to the fourth annual meeting of The Society for the Study of Nanoscience and Emerging Technologies (S.NET), to be held at the University of Twente, the Netherlands, on October 22-25, 2012. The four-day conference will assemble scholars, practitioners and policy makers from around the world interested in the development and implications of emerging technologies.

About S.NET

S.NET is an international association that promotes intellectual exchange and critical inquiry about the advancement of nanoscience and emerging technologies in society. The aim of the association is to advance critical reflection from various perspectives on developments in a broad range of new and emerging fields, including, but not limited to, nanoscale science and engineering, biotechnology, synthetic biology, cognitive science and geo-engineering.

Key note speakers:

To be announced via www.utwente.nl/snet2012; please check the website regularly

Themes, topics and conference strands for the 4th Annual Meeting

S.NET encompasses communities, perspectives, and methodologies from across the social sciences, humanities and natural sciences, and welcomes contributions from technology developers and other practitioners. The program committee invites contributions from the full breadth of disciplines, methodologies, and perspectives, as well as from applied, participatory, and practical approaches to studying these emerging fields. Regionally or internationally comparative perspectives are especially welcome.

Possible themes and topics have been organized into six 'strands'. While applicants are asked to indicate the strand relevant to the topic of their paper, submissions dealing with themes or topics outside the present strands are also welcome.

1. ***R&D practices and the dynamics of new and emerging sciences and technologies***

E.g. Research networks & collaborations, ways of organizing research & development, emerging research fields, practices of 'doing' nano or other emerging fields of science and technology, including historical and philosophical studies of these practices.

2. ***Innovation and the use of new and emerging sciences and technologies***

E.g. Innovation networks and systems, commercialization, implications for industry structures, translation from lab to practice, application and use of nano-based products and other innovations, critical analyses of growth and consumption, including economic, social and cultural approaches of innovation processes

3. ***Governance of newly emerging sciences and technologies***

E.g. Regulations, anticipatory governance practices, risk assessment, risk concerns, (constructive) TA , forms of public participation and engagement, including critical evaluation of forms of governance

4. **Visions and cultural imaginaries of newly emerging sciences and technologies**

E.g. Promises, expectations, visions, science fiction, imagination, socio-technical change, moral change, role of media, including assessments of such visions and analyses of their role in innovation processes.

5. **Publics and their relations to newly emerging sciences and technologies**

E.g. Science communication, risk communication, public engagement, participation and discourses on NEST, science museums, informal science learning initiatives, including critical evaluation of such initiatives and the notion of 'publics'.

6. **Politics and ethics of newly emerging sciences and technologies**

E.g. Responsible innovation, (in)equality, equity, development, global and social distribution of benefits and risks, sustainability, 'soft' and 'hard' impacts of emerging technologies, including theoretical perspectives on NEST and global developments

Formats

S.NET encourages proposals for individual papers, posters, traditional panels, roundtable discussions and other innovative formats. All proposals for panels, roundtables and other formats, should clearly specify topic, order and timing of the different contributions.

How to apply

Proposals will be accepted on the basis of a submitted abstract, which will be refereed. Abstracts must be between 250 and 400 words in length. Proposals for panel sessions should include a general introduction and abstracts of the separate contributions. All proposals should include the strand to which the abstract/panel session is submitted. If an abstract fits more strands, or does not fit the existing strands, simply note that in your submission.

Proposals should be submitted online **before April 2, 2012**. All submitters will be notified about the results of the review process by the end of May 2012. Details of the submission process are available online: www.utwente.nl/snet2012

Stipends

Please consult the website for inquiries about the availability of travel stipends for US graduate students and post-doctoral scholars, and for non-US participants coming from the global South.

S.NET 2012 Program Committee

Andrea Bandelli, Department of Communication Science, VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Michael G. Bennett, Northeastern University School of Law, USA

Diana Bowman, Risk Science Centre and Department of Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health, the University of Michigan, USA and Faculty of Management and Governance, University of Twente, The Netherlands.

Suzan Cozzens, School of Public Policy and Technology Policy and Assessment Center, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA

Arianna Ferrari, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology/Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis, Germany

Julia Guivant, Department of Sociology and Political Science, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil

Barbara Herr Harthorn, Department of Feminist Studies, Center for Nanotechnology in Society, University of California, USA

Ismael Rafols, Science and Technology Policy Research Unit, University of Sussex and Ingenio, CSIC, Universitat Politècnica València, Spain

Arie Rip, Science, Technology and Policy Studies, University of Twente, The Netherlands

Marjolein Van Asselt, Technology and Society Studies, Maastricht University, the Netherlands and Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR), The Hague, the Netherlands

John Weckert, Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics, Charles Sturt University, Australia

Fern Wickson: GenØk Centre for Biosafety, Tromsø, Norway

Jan Youtie, School of Public Policy and Enterprise Innovation institute, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA

Local organizing committee:

Marianne Boenink (Department of Philosophy), m.boenink@utwente.nl

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For more information:

www.utwente.nl/snet2012