

# Critical Issues in Science and Technology Studies – Call for abstracts

11<sup>th</sup> Annual IAS-STC Conference: May 7-8, 2012, Graz, Austria



The 11<sup>th</sup> IAS-STC conference invites interested researchers (especially postgraduates and young researchers) in the area of science and technology studies to give presentations.

The conference provides a forum to discuss on a broad variety of topics in the STS field – especially papers are encouraged which include some aspects of the following four thematic focuses (including special sessions).

## Conference Themes

### ■ Gender – Technology – Environment

In this thematic field two special sessions will deal with *Mobile learning and working – how 'smart technologies' change our lives* and *Queerness in science and technology studies*.

### ■ Ethical, Legal and Social Aspects of Human Genetics and Agricultural Biotechnology

A main focus will lie on research projects providing a critical analysis of human genetic research or of agricultural biotechnology. Researchers investigating either ethical, legal and social aspects of genetic testing in the medical domain or risk policy and wider governance issues related to agricultural biotechnology are especially encouraged to contribute.

### ■ Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

SCP seeks to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems. Researchers investigating the field of innovative, green or social responsible public procurement, including benefits, strategies for the implementation or case studies are encouraged to give a presentation.

### ■ Energy and Climate

Presentations in this field should develop appropriate measures and strategies for the promotion of renewable energy sources and for the transition to a sustainable energy system. Regional governance, climate policy

strategies, innovation policy, technology assessment, and the role of users in the area of energy technologies should play an important role. In this thematic field a special session will deal with *Energy Poverty*.

## Abstracts and proposals

Abstracts should include no more than 250 words, comprising detailed contact information, affiliation and specification of the conference theme you are referring to. Submission of abstracts should please be sent to Thomas Berger ([conference@ifz.tugraz.at](mailto:conference@ifz.tugraz.at)) by **Monday, January 30, 2012**.

We also appreciate proposals for poster presentations and specific sessions in the line with the conference themes. Proposals for sessions shall include a preliminary title of the session, names of possible speakers and a short outline on the issues to be discussed (max. 250 words) and should be sent to the above mentioned email address by **Monday, January 30, 2012**.

We also welcome participants attending the conference without presenting a paper themselves.

More information: [www.sts.tugraz.at](http://www.sts.tugraz.at). ■

## Neuerscheinung: Vernetzung als soziales und technisches Paradigma

Hajo Greif & Matthias Werner (Hg.):

**Vernetzung als soziales und technisches Paradigma**

Wiesbaden: VS Research 2012, 232 S., € 36,-

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Die neueren Informations- und Kommunikationstechnologien zeichnen sich durch immer stärker vernetzte, dezentrale Strukturen aus. Zugleich wird Vernetzung im Sinne dezentral und flexibel organisierter Systeme auch eine immer bedeutsamere Metapher für gesellschaftliche Organisationsprozesse. In diesem Band, der sowohl sozial- als auch technikwissenschaftliche Perspektiven umfasst, wird den Verbindungen zwischen technischen und sozialen Netzwerkkonzepten nachgegangen und deren wechselseitige Beeinflussung untersucht. Das Buch wendet sich an Lehrende und Studierende der Soziologie, der Medien-, Politik- und Kulturwissenschaften sowie der Informations- und Kommunikationstechnologien.

