A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of STS@Harvard,

Let me begin with New Year's greetings to everyone in our STS community at the end of another tumultuous year for us in the world. It has been full of reminders that things we took for granted a mere twenty years ago are under threat as the year draws to a close. These include promises of peace, prosperity, and global emancipation that naïvely hopeful observers looked for at the end of the 20th century's Cold War and the dawn of the age of the internet. These losses are huge.

For us as scholars and participants in the greater community of STS, though, even the darkest clouds hold silver linings, and it is those I would like to highlight in this newsletter. We enjoyed a busy and productive year within the Harvard STS Program, in ways that reached out in new and exciting directions, bringing together people and ideas that we hope will continue to produce fertile dividends for years to come.

Noteworthy events included the 22nd meeting of the Science and Democracy Network and the fourth Summer School on *Expertise, Trust and Democracy*. In addition, our graduate students pulled together an exciting fourth conference of Graduate Research in STS (GRiSTS) on the theme *Idols of Progress: Technoscience Between Ethics and Trust*. We hosted former New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and MIT's Professor Sherry Turkle as 2023 Science and Democracy lecturers. One of the year's stellar events was a conference on *AI and Democracy* that broke new ground for our Program, bringing together not just academics and practitioners but also high-level political figures from the worlds of labor, local government, and the US Congress. All of these events drew international and interdisciplinary audiences and participants, implementing the STS Program's mission of cosmopolitan inclusivity in all of our work.

More detailed descriptions of these and other events in this newsletter testify to the centrality of our field in the affairs of the world, whether the future seems bleak or full of hope. STS continually forces us to see how much work it takes to make things of worth in technological modernity, and both the Program's activities and the Fellows' reports testify to the breadth and richness of our individual and collective efforts. We hope that reading the newsletter brings you new hope, a solid foundation for challenges that will surely confront but never overwhelm us.

With best wishes for 2024,

Sheila

Sheila Jasanoff

Science and Democracy Lecture

Science and Democracy *is a lecture series exploring both the promised benefits of our era's most salient scientific and technological achievements and the potentially harmful consequences of developments that are inadequately understood, debated, or managed by politicians, publics, and policy institutions. The lectures are supported by* **John McQuillan** *and co-sponsored by the Harvard University Center for the Environment and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.*

Bill de Blasio
March 28, 2023

Former Mayor of New York City **Bill de Blasio** presented the Spring 2023 Science and Democracy Lecture, titled "AI for Cities or Cities for AI: Who Should Decide?" Reflecting on his tenure as Mayor, de Blasio resisted ideas that citizens are incapable of making political decisions about AI and that concerns about national security or a "race" with China should quash public debate. He argued cities "cannot allow blind faith in technology to be anesthetizing," emphasizing that technology companies should be subject to greater public scrutiny and unable to deprive citizens of jobs without stronger social safety nets and oversight mechanisms. The panel of respondents featured **Mike Firestone** (Chief of Policy and Strategic Planning, City of Boston), **Sharad Goel** (Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School), **Antoine Picon** (G. Ware Travelstead Professor of the History of Architecture, Harvard University Graduate School of Design), and **Ya-Wen Lei** (Associate Professor of Sociology, Harvard University). **Sheila Jasanoff** moderated a far-ranging discussion that revolved around what it means to make AI "visible" and what democracy "looks like" across contexts and scales, with panelists offering different perspectives on how and for whom stronger relationships between AI and governance should be forged.

Sherry Turkle
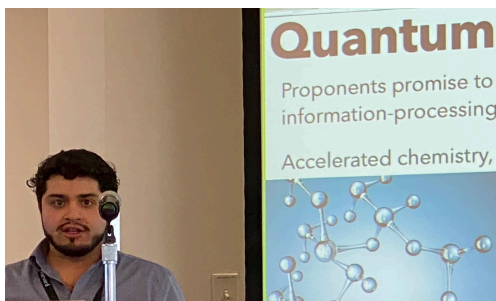### November 30, 2023

The Fall 2023 Science and Democracy lecture was delivered by **Sherry Turkle**, Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Professor of the Social Studies of Science and Technology at MIT and a licensed clinical psychologist. Her talk "Artificial Intimacy: What are People For?" served as the keynote for the **Conference on AI and Democracy** and explored how humans are affected by new AI systems that mimic emotions and empathy. Citing her research into people's experiences with chatbots and robots that simulate emotion, Turkle argued that as we turn to artificial entities instead of people for intimacy, we start losing our ability to handle discomfort, interact in real-time, and be vulnerable with one another. This hurts our capacity for personal relationships, and it can damage democracy by making us less likely to listen to and consider the views of others. The talk was followed by a spirited discussion between Turkle, **David Kennedy** (Manley O. Hudson Professor of Law, Harvard Law School), and **Sheila Jasanoff**. Discussion focused on whether holding still a protected concept of human empathy as threatened by AI risks reifying definitions and entitlements that are colored by race, class or gender.

Events and Initiatives

The STS Program offers a vibrant model for One Harvard through outreach not only to the College but to other professional schools and research centers, most notably the Institute for Global Law and Policy at Harvard Law School, the Harvard University Center for the Environment, the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. These broad and diverse connections have powered the Program's range of activities, including many of our public events.

Graduate Research in STS (GRiSTS)

STS Fellow & Secondary Field Student Rodrigo Araiza Bravo

The Harvard STS Ph.D. students were delighted to host the fourth annual conference for Graduate Research in STS (GRiSTS) from October 12 to 14 at the Harvard Kennedy School. GRiSTS 2023 was organized around the theme **Idols of Progress: Technoscience Between Ethics and Trust**. This year's conference welcomed 20 student presenters and 9 faculty moderators and speakers across 5 student panels and a faculty roundtable. GRiSTS continues to grow as a hub for Ph.D. students in STS and related disciplines in the American Northeast and beyond. The faculty roundtable with **Jim Dratwa** (European Commission), **Nina Frahm** (Aarhus University), **Ben Hurlbut** (Arizona State University), and **Brice Laurent** (Mines ParisTech, Centre de Sociologie de l'Innovation) reflected on constitutional relationships between innovation and national and international institutions. **Sheila Jasanoff** delivered the keynote lecture, titled "Idylls of Progress: Technoscientific Promises and the Ethics of Anticipation." The organizing committee included **Nicole Bassoff**, **Keaton Boyle**, **Lou Lennad**, **Conor McGlynn**, **Pariroo Rattan**, **Hilton Simmet**, and **Justin Wong**, and visuals were designed by Hilton Simmet. The full program and presenter abstracts can be viewed on the GRiSTS website.

STS Summer School

2023 marked the 4th STS Summer School @ Harvard on Expertise, Trust and Democracy, supported by a grant from the Hewlett Foundation and co-organized with Harvard Law School. With 20 faculty guests training 25 dynamic young scholars from 14 countries, the summer school featured sessions that interwove the STS analytic lexicon with contemporary political challenges such as genome editing and responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Informed by sessions introducing a crib sheet of core STS concepts, students presented their own research on topics ranging from surveillance and energy transitions to urban futures and technology in conflict settings. They participated in a deliberative exercise on AI governance and visited the MIT Media Lab before attending the 22nd **Science and Democracy Network** meeting. Additional details about the 2023 program and attendees can be found on the Summer School website, designed by Summer School Program Coördinator and STS doctoral candidate **Hilton Simmet**.

Faculty Søren Riis and Melanie Smallman

Events and Initiatives (cont.)

Conference on AI and Democracy

From November 30 to December 2, the Conference on AI and Democracy gathered actors from academia, government, and civil society in the United States and beyond to call for a "people's movement" that will bring AI development under democratic control and steer it in the service of a progressive human future. Harvard STS Ph.D. candidate **Nicole Bassoff**, undergraduate STS Fellow **Aishani Aatresh**, and STS Director **Sheila Jasanoff** orchestrated the conference in partnership with former Mayor of New York City **Bill de Blasio**. STS Program Manager **Laura Flynn** and all of the STS Fellows provided essential additional support, with striking visuals designed by STS Ph.D. candidate **Hilton Simmet**.

Following a keynote lecture by **Sherry Turkle** (MIT) on artificial intimacy, panels were organized around Labor and Workers, Transparency and Democracy, Regulation and Government, Competition and Security, and Social Movements and NGOs. Featured speakers included **Liz Shuler** (President, AFL-CIO), **Sean O'Brien** (General President, Teamsters), **Jaron Lanier** ("Godfather of Virtual Reality"), **Brando Benifei** (Member of the European Parliament and co-lead for the EU AI Act), Congressman **Ted Lieu** (D-CA-36), and **Jody Williams** (Nobel Peace Prize Laureate). The conference was co-sponsored by Harvard's Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, the Institute of Politics, and the Institute for Global Law and Policy at Harvard Law School. It drew approximately 300 attendees, from Harvard affiliates and government officials to AI industry players and local community members.

Conference debates are informing the development of a public statement on AI governance principles, which is open to comment here.

Bassoff, Jasanoff, and Aatresh

Panel on Labor and Workers, moderated by Mathias Risse (Harvard)

Bill de Blasio

STS Circle

The STS Circle at Harvard, with support from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, continued to engage with contemporary issues in science, technology and society. Chaired by STS Postdoctoral Fellows **Andy Murray** (Global Observatory for Genome Editing) in the Spring and **Gabriel Dorthe** in the Fall, the 2023 Circle line-up included 22 junior scholars and senior faculty working in STS and related fields including law, urban planning, and sociology. Circle speakers included current and former Fellows and distinguished guests from Harvard and other universities. This year's Circle featured many conversations around internationalism in the context of global inequalities, governance of and through digital worlds, and state visions of security, war, and development.

Events and Initiatives (cont.)

Workshops

In February, the STS Program convened a workshop on "Science and Technology in East Asia" that was led by STS Fellows **Wanheng Hu** and **Nicolas Huppenbauer**, featuring talks from Fellows and Secondary Field students. The Program hosted a day-long conference on "Regulatory Challenges in Technological Societies: Dialogues between the United States and Brazil" in April, with STS Fellow **Péricles Gonçalves** spearheading efforts to bring together speakers from academia and regulatory agencies in both countries. The conference included a closing keynote by Brazil Supreme Court Justice **Luís Roberto Barroso** and remarks from Brazil Health Regulatory Agency (Anvisa) Director **Antonio Barra Torres**. It closed with a memorable "book (re)launch" for **Sheila Jasanoff**'s first significant single-authored work, *Risk Management and Political Culture* (1986) — the first-ever book launch for Jasanoff.

In early September, Harvard STS Ph.D. candidate **Pariroo Rattan** co-organized with Professor **Will Deringer** (MIT) a workshop on "Just Computation? Social and Historical Perspectives on Calculation in the Law." The STS Program provided logistical and financial support for the two-day event, which featured 15 papers by scholars from the US, Europe, and Canada. At the end of September, STS Fellows and Secondary Field Students **Rodrigo Araiza Bravo**, **Spencer Doyle**, and **Nathan Drucker** co-organized a panel discussion titled "Destroyer of Worlds?: *Oppenheimer* and the role of scientific innovations in military innovation," part of a successful year of their efforts through the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Quantum Science and Society Student Group. Panelists included **Evelyn Hu** (Harvard), **David Kaiser** (MIT), and **Alex Wellerstein** (Stevens Institute of Technology).

Members of the STS Program and Panelists for "Regulatory Challenges in Technological Societies"
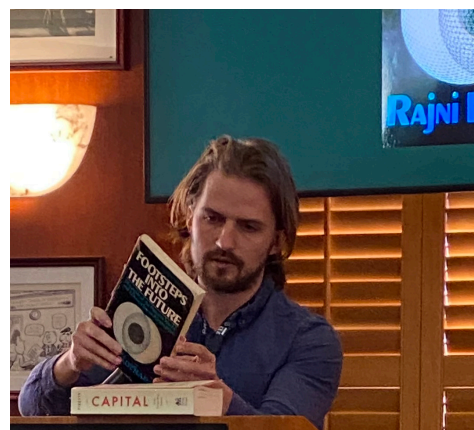
Harvard STS Student Snapshots

Pariroo Rattan

Conor McGlynn

Hilton Simmet

Director's News

Sheila at Sciences Po

Personal highlights of the year for Sheila included a visit to Australia in August anchored by the [Charles Perkins Annual Lecture](#) at the Charles Perkins Centre of the University of Sydney. Sheila also conducted a master class for students interested in law and science under the auspices of La Trobe Law School in Melbourne. She spoke at a Sciences Po seminar on *Jurisprudences of Climate* in Paris in September. In Johannesburg in November, she joined Achille Mbembe, professor at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WISER) and Director of the Innovation Foundation for Democracy, for the [South Africa Conversations 2023](#). Organized by the Holberg Prize, the event brought together key South African academics and research stakeholders from relevant organizations to discuss the technological, political and societal changes we see in our time and their implications both globally and in the perspectives of the global south.

Sheila and Jay Jasanoff at Mandela House in South Africa.

For a fuller account of her research, writing, and service, visit Sheila's [website](#).

Science and Democracy Network

For its 22nd annual meeting, the Science and Democracy Network came together at the Harvard Kennedy School from August 23-26, 2023. Preceded once again by the STS Summer School, over 100 attendees joined the students for seven conference paper panels, a lunch session of lightning talks, and a faculty roundtable on teaching STS. A keynote Roundtable on Truth and Skepticism was chaired by **Pierre-Benoît Joly** (INRAE), featuring opening remarks by **Craig Calhoun** (Arizona State University) titled "Age of Doubt or Age of Credulity?" and responses from **Sheila Jasanoff** and **Melanie Smallman** (University College London).

The program is publicly available on the [SDN website](#), and SDN members can log in to watch recordings of the sessions.

Training and Curricular Activities

Thirteenth Annual STS Undergraduate Essay Contest

The Undergraduate STS Essay Prize Competition drew several dozen submissions from Harvard College students concentrating in subjects across the humanities and natural and social sciences. The winner of the 2023 contest was **Justin Wong** (*pictured above*) for an excerpt of his thesis titled "Beyond Bioethics: An Ethical Science of Autism," which re-situates controversies between activists for neurodiversity and their opponents about medical treatments for autism within values reflected by the framework "different but not deficient." Justin graduated from the College in December 2022 with a joint concentration in Neuroscience and Philosophy, and he began his Ph.D. in Public Policy on the Science, Technology and Policy Studies track as part of the STS Program this fall. Honorable mentions were awarded to **Henry Austin** (now a Research Associate with the Global Observatory for Genome Editing, *pictured below*) and **Tadhg Larabee**. Learn more about the prize and see past winners speak about their work here.

STS Undergraduate Fellowship

15 students from across class years and departments at Harvard College comprised the second cohort of the STS Undergraduate Fellowship, an opportunity for students to learn the foundations of STS and engage with contemporary social and political challenges beyond the classroom and traditional extracurricular activities. Selected from a pool of over 100 applicants, the Undergraduate Fellows met weekly over the fall semester to discuss readings and case studies anchored in the crib sheet of core STS concepts. Guest presenters included STS Postdoctoral Fellow **Gabriel Dorthe** and doctoral candidate **Pariroo Rattan**. A special session with former STS Secondary Field student **Jonathan Moch** illuminated the importance of STS in his work on climate policy for the United States Department of State. In November, the Undergraduate Fellows chaired sessions about "Crises of Environment," "Technoscience, Religion and Revolution," "Information in Formation," and "Dare to Know (Thyself?)." The Fellowship adds to existing STS offerings for undergraduates and helps address both the lack of infrastructure and increasing demand for STS at the College. It was led by undergraduates **Aishani Aatresh**, **Emil Massad**, and **Tomas Winegar** along with **Michael Evans** and **Ellie Fithian**, with support and guidance from STS Ph.D. candidates **Hilton Simmet** and **Nicole Bassoff** and Director **Sheila Jasanoff**. In 2024, the Undergraduate Fellows will continue meeting weekly and aim to organize workshops to engage the broader Harvard College community. The STS Undergraduate Fellowship is generously supported by the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

From left to right: (top row) Andrew Charroux '24, Kelsey Wu '24, Sakiko Miyazaki '24, Sophia Ludtke '25, Elson Bankoff '27, Clara Chen '25, Michael Zhao '25, Tomas Winegar '25, Luke Bradley '24, Gabe LeBlanc '25; (bottom row) Jocelyn Shek '27, Maya Rosen '25, Katie Burstein '25, Julia Freitag '25, Audrey Chang '25, Emil Massad '25, Michael Evans '24, Aishani Aatresh '24. Not pictured: Van Tran '25

Research News

Global Observatory for Genome Editing

GLOBAL OBSERVATORY for Genome Editing

The Global Observatory for Genome Editing convened two significant cross-sectoral events in early 2023 and a third later in the year to continue its expansive discussions about cosmopolitan understandings of human life in the face of developments in genome editing and other biotechnologies. **In Search of Limits in the Age of Genome Editing: Human Integrity at the Frontiers of Engineering Life** at the University of California, San Diego in February brought together scientists and scholars from fields including disability studies, bioethics, and journalism. The workshop continued prior conversations about narratives of promise, purpose, and perfectibility that animate frontiers in biotechnology, with lab models of human embryos prompting reflections on how ideas of limits emerge, how such limits are contested and institutionalized, and how cosmopolitan ethics for the human future might be cultivated. Complementing the Third International Summit on Genome Editing in London, UK in March, **Toward Inclusion: Genome Editing and Social Justice** convened experts in intergovernmental organization, science and medicine, and ethics, including several Summit organizers. With over 60 attendees, panelists offered insights into the constitution of the global and of social justice in the governance of human genome editing. A smaller workshop in December on **Limits of Genetic Manipulation** hosted scientists, bioethicists, and STS scholars from the Boston area and beyond to explore scientists' ethical intuitions concerning limits on biotechnological research. The Observatory's activities for 2024 will begin with a conference on **Editorial Discretion: Transnational Governance at the Frontiers of Biotechnology** in January in Bangalore, India around how bioethical debates related to genome editing and other potentially life-altering technologies are taking shape in India and the Global South. Follow @GenomeObserv for updates, and sign up for our mailing list.

Co-Directors Kris Saha and Ben Hurlbut on a panel during "In Search of Limits" at UCSD.

Director Sheila Jasanoff with Observatory advisers at the Third International Summit on Genome Editing

CURRENT FELLOWS

Aishani Aatresh
A.B. Candidate in Complex Biosocial Systems
Harvard College

Rodrigo Araiza Bravo
Ph.D. candidate in Physics, Secondary Field in STS

Henry Austin
Research Associate
Global Observatory for Genome Editing

Nicole West Bassoff
Ph.D. candidate in Public Policy
Harvard Kennedy School

Keaton Boyle
Ph.D. student in Public Policy
Harvard Kennedy School

Gabriel Dorthe
Postdoctoral Researcher
Harvard STS & IASS, Potsdam

Spencer Doyle
Ph.D. candidate in Physics, Secondary Field in STS

Nathan Drucker
Ph.D. candidate in Physics, Secondary Field in STS

Sushant Kumar
Ph.D. candidate in Public Policy
Northeastern University

Governance of Sociotechnical Transformations (GoST)

The GoST project's Harvard and India teams engaged in several public events. Bhargavi Rao, **Leo Saldanha** and **Hilton Simmet** presented project results at the Kochi Biennale held in Cochin, India on March 5, 2023, in a session titled "Building Secure Tomorrow with Hopes from Today." The workshop was open to students, professionals, and activists who wanted to engage with ideas about our common futures through the medium of art and conversations. A second notable event was the 25th Anniversary of the Environment Support Group (April 27, 2023) the Indian NGO partner organization working with the US team. The event featured Transitions to Sustainability findings as a cornerstone of the ESG's work as ESG is "building interdisciplinary and intersectional steps needed for genuine transformations to sustainability." Team PI **Sheila Jasanoff** gave the opening keynote lecture on "Imagining Futures: Finding Common Ground across Ideological and Political Minefields" which also featured project findings. The event included former Indian Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh, Former Judge of the High Court of Karnataka Justice P Krishna Bhat and the world-renowned environmental activist Vandana Shiva. A brief report of the event was prepared by US team member Hilton Simmet and published in the ESG's bi-weekly newsletter *Environment Justice Matters*.

Leo Saldanha and Bhargavi Rao and Sheila Jasanoff, Hilton Simmet, and Pariroo Rattan at the 25th Anniversary of ESG

Comparative COVID-19 Response (CompCoRe)

Postdoctoral Fellow **Onur Özgöde** left Harvard for a tenure-track appointment in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey. However, project leaders continued to develop the theoretical framework for analyzing what worked and did not work during the pandemic, mainly in terms of the social compacts that gave rise to divergent national responses. These ideas were reflected in talks delivered by PI **Sheila Jasanoff** in Sydney, Australia, in August and in Johannesburg, South Africa, in November.

Ethics in the Lab

Beyond "Don't Be Evil":
Embedding your research in social contexts

Science, Technology and Society (STS)
Graduate Research Seminar

January 17-21, 2023
10:00am - 4:00pm

Harvard Kennedy School, Wexner Building, Room G-20

The Program on Science, Technology and Society invites graduate students
—*particularly scientists, engineers and STS Secondary Fielders*—
to sign up for an innovative research seminar designed to enable you to better understand and engage with the ways research finds its way into applications and policy, and how social and ethical factors affect aspects of your research.

This Seminar counts towards the STS Secondary Field when combined with a research paper.

Instructors
Dr. Sam Weiss Evans
Spencer Doyle

In Collaboration With
Prof. Sheila Jasanoff

http://sts.hks.harvard.edu/

Sam Weiss Evans completed his tenure as Senior Research Fellow in the Harvard STS Program, funded by Schmidt Futures through the *Ethics in the Lab* project. In his final year, Sam continued to teach his successful J-Term course "Beyond Don't Be Evil," which has been a reliable feeder for the STS Secondary Field. Sam also developed and taught new course modules in STS for students in Harvard's John A. Paulson School for Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Trust in Science

The Trust in Science project continued into another year with newly funded projects on data visualization, vaccine strategies in Native American nations, and democratic challenges to evidence-based policy. STS Fellow **Gabriel Dorthe** continued his research on conspiracy theories, showing how belief in conspiracies is often compatible with a firm allegiance to the scientific method, and criticism of dominant findings is then motivated by perceived departures from "good science" on the part of the mainstream. He presented his ethnographic method for trust in science at the 2023 STS Summer School (*pictured above*).

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES in 2023

Sam Weiss Evans
Senior Research Fellow
Senior Policy Advisor
United States National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology

Onur Özgöde
Senior Research Fellow
CompCoRe
Assistant Professor
Bilkent University

Stefan Schäfer
Research Affiliate
Harvard Solar Geoengineering Research Program
Research Group Leader
Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam

Alex Wellerstein
Artistic Director
Associate Professor
Stevens Institute of Technology

Fellow Milestones

The STS Program is pleased to recognize the news and accomplishments of current and former fellows.

Aishani Aatresh (current) was selected as a Rhodes Scholar and will begin an MSc in Nature, Society and Environmental Governance at the University of Oxford in October 2024.

Alberto Aparicio ('17 & '21-23) joined the Department of Bioethics and Health Humanities of the University of Texas Medical Branch as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2023. He also had a paper accepted for publication in BioSocieties titled "Accept No Limits: Biocontainment and the construction of a safer space for experimentation in xenobiology as a legacy of Asilomar."

Margo Boenig-Liptsin ('10, '16) enjoyed her first year as Assistant Professor of Ethics, Technology and Society at ETH Zürich, and the nearby community of many former Fellows and SDN colleagues. In February, she organized a "house-warming" workshop, "Science, Technology and Democracy in Europe." In attendance were

former Fellows Brice **Laurent**, Melanie **Smallman**, Ingrid **Metzler**, Joakim **Juhl**, Stefan **Schäfer**, Gabriel Dorthe, Jim **Dratwa**, Alessandro **Blasimme**, Erik **Aarden**, Pierre **Delvenne**, and Sebastian **Pfotenhauer**. October featured "Re-claim: Agency and Justice in a World out of Joint," a workshop co-organized with Karen **Huang** and Kebene Wodajo (Summer School '23). In May, she gave her inaugural lecture at ETH, "Constitutions of the Human in Digital Societies," and is now preparing for her 1.5 year tenure track review.

Arthur Daemmrich ('01) started a new position as director of the ASU Consortium for Science, Policy and Outcomes in Washington, DC. CSPO develops and shares methods for real-time technology assessment, responsible innovation, and community consultation on emerging technology, biomedicine, and scientific knowledge. Arthur

has started new projects on the history of US technology policy and new approaches to analyze and promote "use-inspired" (community and user-based) innovation. His co-edited book, Inventing for Sports, will be published in 2024.

Gabriel Dorthe ('14, current) published a book with Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent: *Les sciences dans la mêlée. Pour une culture de la défiance* (Paris, Seuil, 2023). In January, he will join Margo **Boenig-Liptsin**'s group at ETH Zürich as a Senior Assistant.

Nathan Drucker ('23) is starting as a Postdoctoral Fellow at IBM Research in Zürich. He will be working on creating new kinds of energy efficient transistors.

Sam Weiss Evans ('09-11, '15-23) started as a Senior Policy Advisor for the US National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology.

Péricles Gonçalves ('23) published "Surety bond and the role of insurance companies as regulators in the context of Brazilian infrastructure projects" with Professor Shauhin Talesh (University of California, Irvine) in the "Revista de Direito Administrativo," one of Brazil's most prestigious journals. He joined Fundação Getulio Vargas as a Professor of Law and Coordinator of Institutional Projects in May.

Yousif Hassan ('22) started a new position at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor as Assistant Professor at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. He recently wrote an article, "AI is Africa's New Growth Mantra, but Can it Fix Development?"

Karen Huang ('20) co-organized "Re-claim: Agency and Justice in a World Out of Joint" at ETH Zürich with Margo **Boenig-Liptsin** and Keben Wodajo. With many former Fellows in attendance, it featured a keynote from Kaushik **Sunder Rajan**, "Just Health?: Transformative Constitutionalism and Post-Apartheid Democracy" and presentation by Kris **Saha** on the Global Observatory for Genome Editing in a public panel on "Science and Society Beyond Dialog." As a workshop follow-up, the organizers are collaborating on an AI-focused paper.

She submitted a grant proposal with **Jacob Moses** (as Co-PIs) "Collaborative Research: Behavioral Science and the Making of the Right-Reasoning Public Health Citizenry," to the NSF STS Program.

Nicolas Huppenbauer ('23) recently published "Connectivity, centrality, and adaptation: The coproduction of political space in China's standardization of autonomous driving technologies" in *Global Media and China*.

Deborah Mascalzoni ('04) is an Associate Professor of Biomedical Ethics at Uppsala University, and member of the World Health Organization Technical Advisory Group on Genomics (TAG-G).

Nicolas Miailhe ('17) transitioned from executive leadership of The Future Society (TFS); he will remain non-executive Chair of the Board. TFS celebrated the successful organization of the 5th edition of the Athens Roundtable on AI And the Rule of Law in Washington, D.C. with many high-level speakers. Nicolas recently co-published an op-ed on AI regulation and the EU AI Act in *Le Monde* with 50 other AI experts and practitioners. See TFS's latest newsletter with all recent publications.

Sebastian Pfotenhauer ('11-14) is enjoying fruitful collaborations with many previous Fellows. Together with Brice **Laurent**, he hosted an author workshop at the end of November at Ècole des Mines for a forthcoming book on the proliferation of public experimentation and 'living labs.' Joakim **Juhl**, Sebastian and a team of researchers are also co-launching a new project on public engagement in emerging quantum technologies. He recently received a grant from the German Federal Ministry of Labor on "Good innovation and good work", which builds on the work conducted on the NSF project "Traveling Imaginaries of Innovation" at Harvard. Two of Sebastian's recent publications include former fellows as co-authors: "How neurotech startups envision ethical futures: demarcation, deferral, delegation" (Science and Engineering Ethics, with Sophia **Knopf** and Nina **Frahm**) and "Understanding regional innovation cultures: Narratives, directionality, and conservative innovation in Bavaria" (Research Policy, with Alexander **Wentland** and Luise **Ruge**).

Melike Sahinol's ('09) latest research on "3D Printed Children's Prostheses" was published in the Journal of Enabling Technologies. Additionally, she co-guest edited "Manufacturing Life (Part 1 & 2)" in NanoEthics—Studies of New and Emerging Technologies, and co-edited "STS for a Post-Truth Age" published by Vernon Press. The Turkish Scholarly STS Network is launching Türkiye's first academic STS journal, and its survey on the Sociology of Science, Technology, and Medicine in the Middle East can be completed here.

Stefan Schäfer ('19) recently published a paper in Social Studies of Science titled "Governing beyond the project: Refocusing innovation governance in emerging science and technology funding" with two colleagues.

Holger Straßheim ('14), Professor of Political Sociology and Co-Director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies of Science (ISOS) at Bielefeld University, has funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (UK) for the project "Ethics and Expertise in Times of Crisis: Learning from International Varieties of Ethics Advice" (2023-26). The project is based at the Centre for Urban Wellbeing, Birmingham University, and carried out in collaboration with Jessica Pykett (Birmingham), Sarah Ball (Melbourne), Robert Lepenies (Karlsruhe), Warren Pearce (Sheffield), and the Nuffield Council on Bioethics.

Makoto Takahashi ('19, '22) began a new position as Assistant Professor of Transdisciplinary STS at Vrije Universiteit (VU), Amsterdam and won the VU Starting Prize, which is a 30,000 EUR prize for an outstanding new hire to kick-start their group. On the personal side, he is pleased to report that Mags and he were married in Japan. It was a small ceremony held at the shrine his family has looked after for three generations. His grandmother officiated and was married by her mother, in the same room, in 1956.
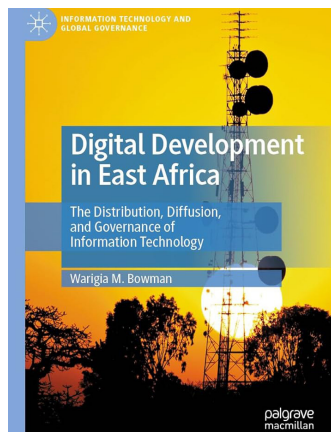
Parting Shots

This map resides in the Fellows Office and shows the global scope of the STS Program over the last 20 years.

Les Sciences Dans La Mêlée
Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent & Gabriel Dorthe

Digital Development in East Africa
Warigia Bowman

Books in 2023 from the STS Program community

Harvard STS Students and Friends, September 2023