



Department of  
Social Studies of Science  
University of Vienna

## Nanotechnology Governance Compared

International Workshop

**June 16 – 17, 2009**

University of Vienna, Aula Universitätscampus AAKH

### Preliminary Programme

#### Tuesday, 16 June 2009:

- 08.45 - 09.15 Registration & Coffee
- 09.15 - 09.45 Welcome  
Opening speech by Herbert Gottweis, LSG, University of Vienna:  
Framing the debate –Comparative Perspectives in Technology Governance  
Welcome by Ulrike Felt, Department of Social Studies of Science
- 09.45 - 10.45 **Keynote Speech** Sheila Jasanoff
- 10.45 - 11.00 Coffee Break
- 11.00 - 12:30 **Panel: Emerging Governance of Nanotechnology**  
Chair: Ulrike Felt  
Matthew Kearnes, Department of Geography, University of Durham:  
Performing European Science Policy – Debates About the Governance and  
Regulation of Nanotechnology  
Monika Kurath, University of Basel:  
Nanotechnology Governance: Accountability and Democracy in a New Mode  
of Regulation
- 12.30 - 14.00 Lunch
- 14.00 - 16.00 **Panel: Nanotechnology Compared I  
Nanotechnology compared to other technologies**  
Chair: Monika Kurath  
Franz Seifert: The history of the debate on modern biotechnology. Lessons  
for nanotechnology?  
Volkmar Lauber, Political Sciences, University of Salzburg:  
The politics of nuclear power: A story of promise and appeal – and of  
manipulating them for the sake of redirecting/misguiding efforts, resources  
and expectations  
Heidrun Huber, LSG, University of Vienna:  
Rhetorical Shifts, Strategies and Institutionalised Systems of Meaning in the  
Emergence of the UK Regulatory Regime on Nanotechnologies
- 16:00 - 16.20 Coffee Break

- 16:20 – **Key Note** Nanotechnology: Assessment and Perspectives  
17:20 Guenter Schmid, Anorganic Chemistry, University of Duisburg
- 17.20 – **Lecture** Joscha Wullweber, Department of Social Sciences, Globalisation & Politics, University of Kassel:  
17:45 Nanotechnology as empty signifier: discursive strategies and socio-economic interests in Nanotech-R&D politics
- 17:45 – **Roundtable: What is Nanotechnology, anyhow?**  
19:15  
Chair: Herbert Gottweis  
Podium: Guenter Schmid, Sheila Jasanoff, Brian Wynne, Erwin Heberle-Bors (Dep. Of Microbiology, University of Vienna), Michael Nentwich (Austrian Academy of Science, NanoTrust Project)
- 19.30 Conference dinner

**Wednesday, 17 June 2009:**

- 09.00 Coffee
- 09:15 – **Wrap-Up Day before**  
09:30
- 09.30 – **Keynote Speech** Ulrike Felt – Imaginaries and Discourses of Promises in biotechnology and nanotechnology  
10.30
- 10.30 – Coffee Break  
10:45
- 10.45 – **Panel: Nanotechnology Compared II**  
12.45 **Different Regions**  
Chair: Heidrun Huber  
  
Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent, History and Philosophy of Science at the Université Paris-X Nanterre:  
Who is concerned with Nanotechnology Governance in France?  
Robert Doubleday, Geography Department, University of Cambridge:  
Fixing the Social: STS in action at two nano centres in the USA and UK  
  
Matthias Wienroth, Department of Geography, University of Durham:  
Governance Rationales and Institutionalizations in UK Science Policy  
Activities: The Case of Nanoscale Science and Technology and Synthetic Biology
- 12.45 – Lunch  
14:00
- 14:00 – **Key Note** Brian Wynne  
15.00
- 15:00 – **Summary** Herbert Gottweis, **Final Discussion**  
16:00