

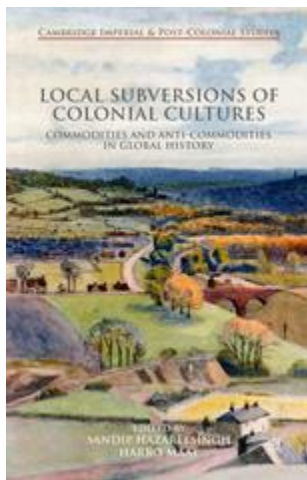


In these Notes on WTMC (July 2016):

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WTMC Annual Meeting, Friday 25 November 2016, De Balie, Amsterdam

The plans for this year's annual meeting are shaping up very nicely. After an update from the director, the morning programme will start with a session organized by Sarah de Rijcke, Roland Bal, Willem Halffman, and Paul Wouters, called *Play or be played? STS, research integrity and research evaluation*. This session will start with a presentation on some of the first results from the PRINTEGER project, funded by the European Union in the framework of Horizon 2020. The project aims to enhance research integrity by promoting a research culture in which integrity is part and parcel of what it means to do excellent research, and not just an external and restrictive control system. The session will also address the emerging debate on the role of indicators and assessment in STS. This will take as a starting point a special collection for *Engaging Science, Technology and Society* edited by Max Fochler and Sarah de Rijcke. The collection includes a call for clearer institutional commitments in developing more explicit, yet multi-faceted and non-essentialist notions of quality in and for STS.



After lunch we will discuss new books by WTMC members – *Emerging Technologies for Diagnosing Alzheimer's Disease*, edited by Marianne Boenink, Ellen Moors & Harro van Lente (with Nelly Oudshoorn & Phil Macnaghten as discussants); and *Local Subversions of Colonial Cultures, Commodities and Anti-Commodities in Global History*, edited by Harro Maat & Sandip Hazareesingh (with Koen Beumer & Toine Pieters as discussants).

In the late afternoon, Anne Beaulieu and Geert Verbong are organizing a panel called *Energy as a contentious (non)-issue*. Engagement with and discussion of energy tend to focus on very specific projects (e.g. windmills, bio-digesters) and to be mired in highly oppositional dynamics. In contrast, discussions of energy as a broader issue at the level of future energy systems or on the effects of fossil fuels are difficult to sustain, with 'business as usual' dominating public discourse. How can we understand these contrasting dynamics? Are they related? Can we speak of

tipping points in the making of issues? What are the lessons to be drawn for STS and which contributions could STS deliver?

Speakers for the panel will represent insights from research, citizen groups and government.

The day will conclude with drinks and the opportunity to catch up with old and new friends and colleagues.

Registration for the annual meeting will open in September, but put the date in your diary now.

Completed dissertations. After the bumper crop of PhDs in early 2016, there is just one 'new doctor' to congratulate now, but that does not make it less meaningful. So congratulations to Joost, who successfully defended his dissertation in June.

- Joost van Driessche. *Muishond. Techno-wetenschappelijke, literaire en ethische bewegingen van taal*, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. 9 June 2016. (Supervisors: Lodi Nauta & René Boomkens)

Congratulations again to Karin Bijsterveld, former WTMC Director (2005-10), for becoming one of this year's [16 new members of the KNAW](#) – see also the WTMC website for more details about Karin's work.

Forthcoming events & activities

Many WTMC members will be in Barcelona for the festival of STS that will be this year's [joint EASST/4S meeting](#). The programme will be posted very soon so that we can be making difficult choices about which sessions to attend. The meeting will be a good showcase for all of the excellent work done by STS members, past and present.

Once back after the holidays and Barcelona, the WTMC Board and others will be hard at work preparing for our evaluation to take place in 2017. More details and requests for input will follow later in the year.