

graphie, Altern und High-Tech – der Fall der Software-Entwickler“ (Uwe Lünstroth), „Technologische Innovation eines Stadtviertels“ (Maria Palasik), „Globalisierung und Regionalisierung und ihre Wirkung auf die Technologische Entwicklung“ (Eva Tóth, nur Abstract), „Risiko – Vorsicht – Partizipation – neuere Entwicklungen in der Risikoforschung“ (Imre Hronszky), „Die Haltung der Menschen gegenüber der Umwelt bei der Jahrtausendwende“ (László Molnar), „Moralische Konflikte in Wissenschaft und Technologie“ (Thomas Zoglauer, nur Abstract), „Menschen und Software – Wer oder was regiert das Internet“ (Zóltan Galánti), „Der Datenfluss in Europa – frei und sicher?“ (Gerhard Banse), „Umgang mit Wissen in einer vernetzten Welt“ (Klaus Kornwachs), „Technologie, Kultur und die Politik der Verfügbarkeit“ (Stefen Groß), „Energiepolitik in der Europäischen Union“ (Gergely Harmati, nur Abstract), „Wissensmanagement“ (Stefan Berndes), „Veränderungen in der Technologiepolitik“ (Éva Estók, Zsolt Szabó).

Der Workshop hat die ihm zugedachte Aufgabe voll erfüllt, die jeweiligen Forschungsansätze miteinander näher bekannt zu machen. Dadurch war es möglich, die Verbindung zwischen deutschen und ungarischen Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftlern auf dem Gebiet der Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften herzustellen und zu vertiefen, eine internationale Arbeitsgruppe zu bilden, die sich mit Problemen auf dem Gebiet der Technologiepolitik befasst, und die Beziehungen zwischen der Brandenburgischen Technischen Universität Cottbus and der Budapester Universität für Technologie and Wirtschaft zu verstärken.

Ein wesentlicher Zweck des aus dem Workshop hervorgehenden Buches wird es auch sein, als Lehrbuch für die Science, Technology and Society Programme (fachübergreifende Studienangebote) im Rahmen des 6. EU Programms für Higher Education Transfer zu fungieren. Der geplante Band wird voraussichtlich im Frühjahr 2003 in der Reihe „Technikphilosophie“ im Lit-Verlag, Münster erscheinen (siehe auch den Hinweis auf diese Reihe in diesem Heft, S. 133).

ANKÜNDIGUNGEN

Konferenzen/Workshops/Seminare

Biodiversität. Wissenschaftliche Grundlagen und gesellschaftliche Relevanz

Marburg/Lahn, 9. - 10. September 2002

Das Institut für Philosophie der Philipps-Universität Marburg und die Europäische Akademie zur Erforschung von Folgen wissenschaftlich-technischer Entwicklungen Bad-Neuenahr-Ahrweiler GmbH veranstalten ein Symposium zum Thema „Biodiversität – Wissenschaftliche Grundlagen und gesellschaftliche Relevanz.“

Im Rahmen dieses Symposiums sollen insbesondere Status und Bedeutung der Molekularbiologie für die Beschreibung von Biodiversität sowie das Verhältnis der Molekularbiologie zu anderen Disziplinen diskutiert werden.

Das Symposium ist in die folgenden Sektionen gegliedert:

- *Sektion I: Setting the Stage* (mit Beiträgen von P. Janich, H. Saedler)
- *Sektion II: Molekularbiologische Aspekte* (mit Beiträgen von R. Ammann, B. Breckling, R. Rosello-Mora, P. Kämpfer, J. Breiter-Hahn, M. Bölker, R. Marggraf)
- *Sektion III: Biodiversität im Diskurs* (mit Beiträgen von M. Gutmann, F. Steininger, M. Gudo, M. Türkay, L. Trepl (angefragt), M. Weingarten).

Kontakt

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Pan-European e-government services for citizens and enterprises: the role of IDA

Brussels, Belgium, 19-20 September 2002

The European Commission will address growing demand from citizens and enterprises for e-government services at a conference on "Pan-European e-government services for citizens and enterprises: the role of IDA (Interchange of Data between Administrations)" in Brussels on 19 and 20 September.

The event is being organised by the Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) programme managed by DG Enterprise. Participants will look at pan-European e-service demand and supply and attempt to formulate a pan-European strategy for 2003 to 2004 and beyond, and how IDA can contribute to this initiative.

The event will also see the launch of a new EU website providing citizens and enterprises with assistance in cross-border mobility.

(Source: CORDIS focus)

For further information and to register, please consult the following Web address:
<http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida>

or contact:

E-Mail: ida-central@cec.eu.int.

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Tagung Zwischen Vorsicht und Wagnis. Wahrnehmung und Bewertung von Risiken im Umgang mit modernen Technologien

Berlin, 20. - 21. September 2002

Ein Leben ohne Risiko ist nicht vorstellbar. Trotz dieser immer schon gültigen Erfahrung geben die Entwicklungen der Moderne Anlass, die Sinnhaftigkeit vieler neuartiger Risiken, die mit dem schnellen technischen Wandel verbunden sind, kritisch zu überdenken. Schon Ende des 19. Jahrhunderts gab es vereinzelt Proteste

gegen neue Erfindungen wie die Eisenbahn oder das elektrische Licht. Spätestens seit dem schweren Reaktorunglück 1986 in Tschernobyl ist jedoch auch in breiterer Öffentlichkeit eine grundlegende Skepsis gegenüber technischen Innovationen spürbar. Sind die Geister, die wir gerufen haben, noch von uns beherrschbar? Oder haben sie nicht vielmehr uns im festen Griff?

Die noch in den 50er Jahren vorherrschende Technikeuphorie, eng gekoppelt an einen starken Fortschrittsglauben, scheint heute weitgehend erloschen. Vielmehr stoßen technische und zivilisatorische Neuerungen auf breite Skepsis – vor allem dann, wenn mit ihrem Einsatz Risiken für Gesundheit und Umwelt verbunden werden. Steht die oft nur marginale Verbesserung von Komfort oder Effizienz noch im rechten Verhältnis zu der Gefahr schwerwiegender Nebeneffekte? Wie können wir die missbräuchliche Anwendung gut gemeinter Innovationen möglichst weitgehend verhindern? Wie weit ist die technische Entwicklung ökonomischen Zwängen unterworfen? Und wie sollen wir mit Risiken umgehen, deren Tragweite vom jetzigen Standpunkt aus noch gar nicht absehbar ist? Besonders kontrovers werden dabei die Techniken diskutiert, die nicht wegen ihrer potenziellen Nebenwirkungen gefürchtet werden, wie etwa die Kernenergie, sondern gerade wegen ihrer beabsichtigten Wirkung, wie etwa bei dem Einsatz der Gentechnik in der Reproduktionsmedizin. Sind hier Chancen und Risiken nicht ein und dasselbe?

Die Veranstaltung ist in drei Blöcke gegliedert:

1. Was ist Risiko und wie können wir es erfassen? Grundlagen der Risikoabschätzung
2. Vom Fortschrittsglauben zur Technikfeindlichkeit? Risikowahrnehmung moderner Technologien
3. Wer wagt, gewinnt? Möglichkeiten und Grenzen der Risikobewertung

Den Abschluss bildet eine Podiumsdiskussion zum Thema „Zwischen Vorsicht und Wagnis: Risikopolitik in der Diskussion“.

Die Akademie für Technikfolgenabschätzung in Baden-Württemberg und die vom Bundesministerium für Gesundheit und dem Bundesministerium für Umwelt gemeinsam eingesetzte Risikokommission bearbeiten seit Jahren

die hier aufgeworfenen Fragen. Die von der Evangelischen Akademie zu Berlin gemeinsam mit diesen beiden Institutionen vorbereitete Tagung bietet die Möglichkeit, sich aus erster Hand zu informieren und mit den damit befassten Fachleuten ins Gespräch zu kommen.

Kontakt

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Europe's Regions Shaping the Future – The Role of Foresight

Brussels, Belgium, September 24-25, 2002

Technology Foresight

Technology Foresight (TF) and Technology Assessment (TA) activities play an important role for giving guidance to policy makers from the public and private sector. They are important for the development and management of future-oriented innovation systems. Though technological changes are not predictable in the long run, TF/TA activities provide robust orientation assisting decision makers in detecting and identifying opportunities for further development. Furthermore they point out the networks of actors necessary to take advantage of these opportunities, and they are able to identify the barriers, risks and obstacles that need to be addressed to avoid these problems in advance. This is why governments and other relevant actors in innovation systems, have become increasingly interested in Foresight methods and best practices.

Foresight in a regional perspective

Regional Foresight fills a demand for ways to address strategic questions in a locally restricted but socially comprehensive manner. On a regional level one can involve a wide constituency

of societal stakeholders and make use of innovation networks that operate beyond traditional boundaries. Currently the wide diversity of Foresight efforts indicates that Europeans are embracing the possibilities for engaging in regional innovation forms of Foresight and TA.

However, there is still not enough cooperation and exchange of best practice among the various regions, and with activities at other governance levels, missing advantages, e.g., in the form of economies of scale, cost-efficiency, and shared knowledge gains. Thus it seems appropriate to think that networking regional Foresight activities, and embedding them thoroughly in policy design and implementation is the most effective way to build synergies and to foster learning effects across the different regions and policy fields.

This has become all the more important at the eve of the Enlargement of the EU. Progress in the cooperation with the Candidate Countries could probably be achieved more thoroughly and rapidly at the regional level, and, once established in the field of Foresight and TA, joint activities in any other policy field might proceed more smoothly.

Background of the conference

The strength of Europe, its diversity and multicultural tradition, can be made a driving force for technological and organisational innovation. The many levels of governance structures within Europe as a whole and within each country provide an excellent prerequisite for a productive and effective combination of diversity and ingenuity when it comes to economic, organisational and social innovations. In 2001, the Commission has established a high level expert group on *Mobilising the Regional Foresight Potential for an Enlarged EU*, to contribute to the debate on a new European Governance, to the involvement of the Candidate Countries in the European integration process, and to the success of the "Lisbon Strategy". The group has successfully dealt with:

- different aspects of regional Foresight (effectiveness and efficiency; adaptation to different circumstances; benchmarking and quality control; alternative methods; etc.)

- linking regional Foresight to other fields and horizontal issues (to socio-economic policy development in knowledge-based economies; self-generative innovation capability; social knowledge management; sustainability; multi-level governance structures; importance for cohesion and candidate countries; etc)

The group members themselves, as well as the results of their work will constitute an important input to the conference. In addition, other high level policy makers and experts from Europe and outside Europe will share their knowledge and experience in this event.

Goals of the conference

Involving various Commission Services, European organisations, and policy makers and experts from Member States and Candidate Countries, the conference aims at contributing to the networking of regional decision-makers, as well as foresight practitioners, promoters and stakeholders throughout Europe's regions. The first day is dedicated to inserting regional Foresight in a broader context (European Governance, Enlargement, Lisbon Strategy, European Research Area) and presenting concrete results already achieved in this field in different European regions. The objective of the second day is to actively engage, on the one hand, promoters and sponsors of regional foresight (national and regional authorities, Commission Services, other supporters), and, on the other hand, practitioners and stakeholders (participants from the public and private domain) to develop ideas for new activities to harness the potential of Foresight to contribute to the Lisbon goals. There will be ample opportunity for this, as both the 'demand' and the 'supply' side will be broadly represented in the conference.

The creation of European consortia of Regional Foresight Initiatives could be one of the outcomes, strategic contributions to the realisation of the European Research Area (ERA), the far reaching goal of European research policy in the coming years. Regional Foresight activities will support the ERA by reinforcing and widening European unity through coordinated diversity and strengthening regional development in all Member States. This will be

specifically important for the candidate and cohesion countries: They can develop their own path to modernization and innovation, and still link to all types of European networks and regions. Therefore, the conference focuses on regions both in Member States and Candidate Countries, with additional expert input from outside Europe.

The conference is jointly organised by the Center of Technology Assessment in Baden-Württemberg and the European Commission, DG Research.

Participants of the conference

The conference is directed at the following persons: Decision makers in and for the Regions in Europe; Members/Representatives of Stakeholder Groups; Representatives of regional TF/TA centres and initiatives; TF/TA specialists; Officials from Member States and Candidate Countries - national, regional, local; Officials from Commission Services, e.g. Directorates General RTD, REGIO, ENTR, ENLARG, JRC; Members of the European Parliament; Committee of the Regions; other interested parties.

Languages

Contributions in the plenary sessions will be simultaneously translated in the major EU-languages. For the poster session, multi-lingual assistants will be available to facilitate communication.

Contact

Center of Technology Assessment
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For additional information and registration, please visit the conference web site: <http://www.regional-foresight.de> or send an e-mail to foresight@ta-akademie.de or a fax to +32 - 2 - 295 88 65 with your contact details.

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**10. Leipziger Informatiktage 2002
Marktplatz Internet –
Von e-Learning bis e-Payment
Das Internet als sicherer Marktplatz**

Leipzig, 26. - 27. September 2002

Die Leipziger Informatiktage (LIT) richten sich vornehmlich an Wissenschaftler, Ingenieure und Praktiker in ganz Deutschland. Ausländische Fachleute sind willkommen.

e-Learning und e-Payment werden Schwerpunkte im Programm der LIT'02 bilden. Die LIT'02 fokussieren den elektronischen Geschäftsverkehr im Internet, das e-Business vom privaten Einkauf bis zum Abschluss weitreichender Verträge, und e-Government. Die Sicherheit der Transaktionen im Internet spielt eine zentrale Rolle für die Akzeptanz der angebotenen Produkte und Dienstleistungen.

Weitere Informationen finden Sie unter:
<http://LIT-2002.dfki.de>.

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**Preliminary Programme
Global Governance 2002
Civil Society and the Democratization of Global Governance: Redefining Global Democracy**

Montréal, Québec, Canada, 13 - 16 October 2002

The Backdrop

The globalization of the planet is occurring faster than is the capacity for adaptation of governance structures. Nation states are losing control over matters traditionally within their sovereignty; the emergence of *city states* is increasingly imaginable, and trans-national corporations are functioning in a borderless working environment beyond national jurisdictions. The Bretton Woods Institutions and the WTO are expanding their reach. The United Nations institutions have lost prominence and power. A multi-headed global civil society – an expression of the growing “people’s multilateralism” – is increasingly influencing the international agenda.

Traditionally, civil society has dealt with issues related to the quality of life. Increasingly, and especially at the global level, civil society is dealing with problems such as unchecked violence, militarism, bigotry, and pollution that threaten the survival of the species.

Global Governance 2002 (G02) is an opportunity to understand better the nature of these trends, and an occasion to help define the role that global civil society can, and should play during this time of dramatic change.

Global Governance

The trend to globalization continues unabated, with the multi-layered and growing interdependence of earth’s citizens.

This interdependence means that decisions taken in far-flung areas of the globe affect everyone. Our current political, economic and social structures are meant largely to function at a national level, and to be accountable to national laws and customs, which vary in efficiency as well as in their adherence to democratic checks and balances. Moreover, uneven access to benefits and control over global gov-

ernance disadvantages women, southern populations and indigenous peoples.

Redefining Democracy

These trends have implications for global democracy. Democratic governance must include structures and institutions that are accountable to the electorate, to the people, *to all, North and South, women and men.*

G02 will examine the rise of global *participatory* democracy driven by civil society forces. Advancements in national *representative* democracy in many countries have not translated into greater representative democracy globally, a vacuum that global civil society is filling.

Global Civil Society

The world community continues to struggle with ambiguities around the definition and role of civil society. Does civil society include the profit-making sector? Can diverse and conflicting groups under the umbrella of “civil society” be lumped together? Can anarchists, fundamentalists, advocates of violence be part of “civil society”? Or, is civil society defined by a common set of values?

Can civil society claim to represent the will of the people, more or less so than elected governments, oppressive governments, the World Bank, IMF or WTO? And to whom is it accountable?

G02 will be Participatory

Although some experts are invited to play visible roles, G02 will be largely participatory in nature. This, of course, befits the very nature of our primary concern: generating citizen participation in matters affecting the entire globe. Numerous workshops will encourage participants to bring their experience and expertise to the table.

Key Objectives of G02

- To raise and deepen understanding of democratic global governance
- To explore cutting-edge, innovative and constructive policy options on how to build more democratic global governance

- To bring together practitioners and thinkers for sharing, bridge-building and learning across sectors: civil society, the UN, International Financial Institutions, governments, parliamentarians, the global corporate community, academia and the media
- To develop action strategies by civil society actors
- To identify innovative proposals which will strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration in support of democratization

The conference is organised along the following Tracks:

- United Nations: A more democratic UN... and a stronger UN!
- Non-Dominant Groups: The influence of Non-Dominant Groups on Global Governance: the Case of la Francophonie
- Parliamentarians: The role of Parliament and Parliamentarians in Global Governance
- Trade: Trade, Equity and Democratic Global Governance
- Human Rights: Human Rights and Global Governance in the 21st Century: Civil Society and the Indivisibility of Human Rights
- Global Corporations: Global Corporations and Global Governance
- Transnational Civil Society: Democratic Challenges
- Local Government: A New Actor in Global Governance?
- Financial Flows: Ungoverned? Ungovernable?

Highlights

The conference will offer the following highlights:

- Daily keynote addresses given by:
 - Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations
 - Supachai Panitchpakdi, Director General Designate of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
 - Paul Martin, Minister of Finance of Canada
 followed by direct questions from civil society participants
- Unique opportunity – approximately one year after September 11 – to assess impacts

and changes to multilateralism, the role of the UN and the response from international civil society networks

- Discussion of the democratization of global governance for the first time by civil society representatives, high level officials from UN and multilateral agencies, parliamentarians, national and local government representatives, academics, human rights advocates, trade unionists and indigenous people
- Finding solutions to challenges of global democracy from different perspectives (multiple tracks) providing opportunities for inter-sectoral bridge-building
- Leaders from global civil society and economic institutions as panellists, speakers, participants
- Daily "Fishbowls" combining different tracks and offering stimulating dialogue opportunities with world figures

Forum international de Montréal (FIM)

G02 is an initiative of FIM (the Montréal International Forum). FIM was established in 1998 in Montréal as a global alliance of individuals and organizations with the goal of improving the influence of international civil society on the United Nations and the multilateral system. FIM believes that the stated goals of the UN are beyond reasonable reproach and that the challenge of the FIM alliance is to assist meaningfully in bringing them to fruition.

In order to help achieve its mission, FIM's statutes specify that a majority of FIM board members be from the South.

Contact and Registration

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Consult our website <http://www.fimcivilsociety.org>
for the most up-to-date version.

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Technikgestaltung zwischen Wunsch und Wirklichkeit. Interdisziplinäre Annäherungen Workshop im Rahmen der SEL-Stiftungsprofessur für interdisziplinäre Studien

Technische Universität Darmstadt, 24. - 25. Oktober 2002

Inhalt und Zielsetzung

Der Begriff der Technikgestaltung drückt die Erwartung aus, dass wir nicht einer Eigendynamik der Technik oder einer „blinden Evolution“ ausgeliefert sind, sondern dass wir Technik nach Maßgabe von Zielen und Werten aktiv und bewusst gestalten können. Seit den neunziger Jahren wird verstärkt danach gefragt, ob und inwieweit Technik und die entsprechende Forschung an gesellschaftlichen Bedürfnissen und Zielen ausgerichtet werden können. Zurzeit besteht die Anforderung vor allem darin, Technik im Hinblick auf mehr Nachhaltigkeit zu gestalten bzw. dafür die Voraussetzungen zu schaffen.

Wie politik- und sozialwissenschaftliche Forschung gezeigt haben, stellen sich jedoch ganz erhebliche Probleme: hinsichtlich der Verfügbarkeit des notwendigen Wissens, hinsichtlich einer einvernehmlichen Bewertungsbasis und hinsichtlich der praktischen Umsetzung. Ein „Gestaltungsoptimismus“ ist nicht angebracht. Der entgegengesetzte „Gestaltungspessimismus“ hat aber seine Grenze darin, dass in der Praxis Gestaltungsprozesse stattfinden: in den technischen Labors, in der Gesetzgebung, in den Vorstandsetagen der Industrie oder auch beim Kauf technischer Geräte.

In dieser Situation besteht das Ziel der Tagung darin, die Möglichkeiten von Technikgestaltung in einer interdisziplinären Perspektive zu beleuchten. Schon der Begriff der Technikgestaltung selbst ist in sich nicht klar definiert. Ingenieure verstehen etwas anderes darunter als Politiker, Manager etwas anderes als Sozialwissenschaftler. Durch das Zusammenbringen von verschiedenen Disziplinen, die jeweils verschiedene Aspekte der Technikgestaltung bearbeiten, sollen gegenseitige Lerneffekte ermöglicht und die Bedingungen für interdisziplinäre Kooperation verbessert werden. Darüber hinaus soll das

Ergebnis ein besseres Verständnis dessen sein, was Technikgestaltung bedeuten kann, wie Technikgestaltung historisch einzuordnen ist, ob und wie gesellschaftliche Technikgestaltung erfolgen kann und auf welche Weise und unter welchen Bedingungen eine Technikgestaltung für mehr Nachhaltigkeit möglich ist.

Struktur

Das wissenschaftliche Programm des Workshops ist in drei Sektionen, einem Abendvortrag und die Podiumsdiskussion am Schluss gegliedert.

Sektion 1: Technikgestaltung – Facetten eines Begriffs

Im Begriff der Technikgestaltung kann nach ganz verschiedenen Aspekten gefragt werden: nach den Gestaltungszielen, den Gestaltungsmitteln, den Nebenfolgen, der Gestaltbarkeit von Technik, nach den einer Gestaltung im Wege stehenden Hemmnissen, nach den konzeptionellen und methodischen Problemen aktiver Gestaltung und nach den gestaltenden Akteuren und ihrer Legitimation. In den Vorträgen werden diese Aspekte analytisch untersucht, um den Horizont des Begriffs „Technikgestaltung“ abzustecken.

Sektion 2: Technikonstruktion als Gestaltung – historische Perspektive

In der Technikgeschichte lassen sich verschiedene Hinweise auf den Umgang mit Technikgestaltung finden. Das betrifft sowohl konkrete Fallbeispiele als auch gesellschaftliche Haltungen gegenüber der Herausforderung der Technikgestaltung und der Einschätzung ihrer Möglichkeiten und Grenzen. In den Vorträgen wird dies aus Sicht der technikgeschichtlichen und der Technikgeneseforschung thematisiert.

Sektion 3: Gesellschaftliche Technikgestaltung

Der Begriff der Technikgestaltung wird häufig für das „social shaping of technology“ verwendet. Dabei geht es um die Möglichkeiten, aus einer gesellschaftlichen Perspektive die Technikentwicklung in bestimmte gewünschte Richtungen lenken zu können und zu definieren, was „gewünscht“ heißen soll. Im Zuge der

Abkehr von einer staatlichen Techniksteuerung werden neue Konzepte gesellschaftlicher Technikgestaltung diskutiert. Es wird in dieser Sektion gefragt, welche Gestaltungsmodelle diesen Ansätzen zugrunde liegen und welche Probleme sich stellen.

Podiumsdiskussion: Technikgestaltung für Nachhaltigkeit?

Im Zentrum der Diskussion um Technikgestaltung steht zurzeit die Frage, ob und inwieweit es möglich ist, durch gezielte Technikentwicklung die gesellschaftliche Umsteuerung hin zu mehr Nachhaltigkeit wesentlich zu unterstützen. In der Frage nach einer Technikgestaltung für Nachhaltigkeit kulminieren die Anforderungen an Technikgestaltung genauso wie die sich stellenden Probleme. Das Projekt einer „nachhaltigen Technikgestaltung“ weist eine Vielzahl ungelöster konzeptioneller und methodischer Probleme auf, zu denen Lösungsmöglichkeiten auf dem Podium und mit dem Auditorium diskutiert werden sollen.

Organisation

Die Tagung wird im Gästehaus der TU Darmstadt, 64287 Darmstadt, Dieburger Straße 241, stattfinden. Alle Veranstaltungen werden als Plenarsektionen abgehalten.

Veranstalter ist der gegenwärtige Inhaber der SEL-Stiftungsprofessur für interdisziplinäre Studien an der TU Darmstadt, Prof. Dr. Armin Grunwald (grunwald@itas.fzk.de), in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Zentrum für Interdisziplinäre Technikforschung an der TU Darmstadt (ZIT).

Das Programm des Workshops ist auf der Homepage des ZIT zu finden (www.zit.tu-darmstadt.de/) oder kann über die untenstehende Adresse angefordert werden.

Kontaktadresse und Anmeldung

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International Conference Regional Cycles: Regional Eco- economy towards Sustainability

Leipzig, October 31 - November 2, 2002

Introduction

Regional economy as a concept for sustainable development has raised a lot of interest among researchers and policy makers in the last years. But how can economic concepts at the regional level actually be implemented? Where do regional cycles make sense? How can European Regions learn from each other? The International Conference: "Regional Cycles – Regional economy towards Sustainability" aims to find answers to these questions, and to enliven the interdisciplinary debate on sustainable regional economic activities in Europe. The theme "Regional Cycles" should hereby be understood in a wide sense, including financial, substance and material cycles and their regionalisation.

The conference is organised on behalf of the German Ministry of Education and Research.

Conference Objectives

The Conference aims to:

- Present international experts with the Status Quo of the research in the field of regional approaches to sustainability with a focus on economic activities. Decision-makers and practitioners from local, regional and national authorities as well as international experts, researchers, business representatives, consultants and further interested persons are invited to attend.
- Encourage a dialogue and the exchange of experience between the different actors with the objective of discussing and contingently identifying factors for success as well as necessary framework conditions. Furthermore, it aims to provide a stage to facilitate and stimulate the establishment of contacts that will lead to future international research co-operation. The establishment of research networks will be supported.

During the Conference participants will have the opportunity to visit EUREGIA, "the Congress and Specialist Exhibition for sustainable

regional development in Europe". More information can be found at <http://www.euregia-leipzig.de>

Conference Themes

At the conference innovative proposals will be presented, which may include case studies, research results, roundtable discussions and networking activities. The main topics addressed are:

- Regional Substance Flow Management and the Re-use of Waste
- Agriculture, Consumer Producer Cooperations and Regional Marketing, Sustainable Use of Regional Potentials
- Traffic Prevention via Regional Cooperation
- Regional Business and Innovation Networks
- Promotion of new forms of Employment via Regional Co-operation
- Regionalisation and Globalisation as parallel movements
- Corporate Citizenship at the Regional and Local level
- New Forms of Governance: Alliances Between Different Levels of Government
- Regional Agenda 21
- Public Tendering and Concessions as Instruments for Political Steering in Regions
- Eco-Industrial Parks
- National and European Framework Conditions for Sustainable Regions
- International Partnerships Between Regions
- Indicators and Standards for Sustainable Economic Activities within Regions

Contact

The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives

European Secretariat

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Up to date information on the conference can be found at:

<http://www.regional-sustainability.de>

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The 4th Triple Helix Conference Breaking Boundaries – Building Bridges

Copenhagen, Denmark – Lund, Sweden,
November 6 - 9, 2002

The 4th Triple Helix Conference is open to anyone who is interested in the interactions of university-industry-society. The theme of this year's conference is breaking boundaries between university, industry and society and building bridges across the helices and across other geographical and national boundaries.

The conference will be organised around 15 tracks with approx. 20 papers each. Papers were invited that deal with: science and technology policy issues, research and innovation management, university-industry links, knowledge network organisation, organisational learning, commercialisation of science, regional development and other topics related to the Triple Helix concept.

Each track will be managed by a team of convenors. The papers were circulated via the net for track participants. Track descriptions and contact details are available at our website at www.triplehelix.dk.

So far, the conference will comprise the following tracks:

1. Managing intra-organisational entrepreneurship
2. Research programming around the Triple Helix
3. Mass mediating between the public, science, and industry
4. Innovations in biotechnology
5. Rethinking the role of professions in knowledge society
6. Creative knowledge environments
7. Research policies in the Triple Helix
8. Breaking boundaries and building bridges: The case of the emerging market economies in central East Europe
9. Science – The managed frontier. Research management at the boundaries
10. Technology foresight in the Triple Helix
11. Triple Helix and regional innovation clusters
12. Structural preliminaries of innovation and their interdependency with the cultural context
13. Towards Triple Helix indicators

14. Structural Preliminaries of Innovation and their Interdependency with the cultural context

The conference is a collaboration between Copenhagen Business School, Lund University and Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, and will mainly be held in Copenhagen, Denmark with a day in Lund, Sweden.

Conference secretariat

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Further information is available at:

www.triplehelix.dk

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Transboundary pollution

Belgrade, Yugoslavia, 7-10 November 2002

The Balkan environmental association will hold a conference on transboundary pollution in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, from 7 to 10 November 2002

The conference will bring together scientists, politicians and public administrators from south-eastern European countries with the aim of improving relations, enhancing scientific cooperation and maintaining and improving the region's environmental conditions.

Topics for discussion include environmental legislation, environmental monitoring and control, air pollution, water management, waste management, soil pollution, environmental education, clean technologies, recycling, radioactivity, ecology, biology and risk assessment.

The conference organisers are seeking abstracts relating to all areas of environmental science and papers for the young scientist awards.

(Source: CORDIS focus)

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Call for Papers
Knowledge and Economic and Social Change: New Challenges to Innovation Studies

Manchester, UK, April 7 - 9, 2003

Innovation Studies has made great progress in the last 30 years, and has been a major contributor to revealing the powerful role of knowledge creation and exploitation in driving economic and social change. Furthermore, much of this progress has been achieved by cross-disciplinary work involving economists, sociologists, historians and political scientists. But the current developments in the global economy, in technologies and in political systems are continuing to pose new challenges to analysis. The purpose of this conference is to bring together the innovation studies community to take on these challenges.

The role of knowledge in the operation of the global economy is increasing in importance and complexity. There is a qualitative change in the conditions under which knowledge is exploited to create wealth, to improve the quality of life, and to move towards a sustainable ecosystem, economy and society. As the nature of the knowledge economy changes and is better understood, a distinctive new research agenda has emerged to study the management of innovation and to develop new innovation policies. These themes, and the research questions they pose, are the subject of this conference.

The Conference is organised by 'Advances in the Economic and Social Analysis of Technology' (ASEAT) and the 'Institute of Innovation Research' (I of IR)

The Institute is a new research centre that brings together three existing centres – CRIC (Centre for Research on Innovation and Competition), CROMTEC (Centre for Research on Organisations, Management and Technical Change) and PREST (Programme of Policy Research in Engineering, Science and Technology).

Call for Papers

We are inviting papers on the following broad topics:

1. Innovation and the Changing Global Economy

Structural changes are taking place both within and between national economies, such as the shift of economic activity to the tertiary sector; the lowering of trade barriers, consolidation in some industries, rapid emergence of new players in others. Innovation activities take on an increasingly 'network' character and are more widely distributed across the globe. So,

- What roles do innovation and knowledge-based processes play in contributing to these structural changes?
- How do the structural changes affect the nature of innovative activity; and to what extent do they produce inequalities in national innovative capacities?

2. Managing Technology and Innovation beyond the Boundaries of the Firm

Even the largest firms now find that it is uneconomic to remain self-sufficient in creating all the technical and market knowledge that is required to pursue their business. Consequently, the act of innovation now involves the mobilisation of a network of economic agents who possess complementary knowledge and capabilities. This in turn requires careful investments in 'knowing what others know'. So,

- What are the practical decision rules and procedures which firms can use to make choices between alternative innovations and the routes to them, when both of these tasks mean managing beyond the boundaries of the firm?
- What changes do these 'distributed' modes of innovation mean for the individual firm with respect to the creation, ownership and deployment of assets, and in the received view of the operation of markets for goods, capital, and corporate control?

3. Policy in Knowledge Production and Knowledge Use

The changes in the institutional map of knowledge production and use create a new situation for the formulation and application of policy. Blurring the boundaries between the different

types of knowledge activity undermines one of the traditional touchstones of policy in this field: namely, that market failure applies strongly to certain types of knowledge production. New conceptual underpinnings for policy-making that are more appropriate to the new conditions are needed. So,

- What should guide the balance between public and private investment in knowledge production?
- Given the increasing importance of intellectual property rights, how will the interfaces between knowledge-producing and knowledge-using organisations in public and private sectors be managed?

4. *Innovation for Sustainability and the Quality of Life*

A prominent feature of the socio-political environment in which all the above analytical and practical questions are set is the debate over what is socially acceptable and environmentally sustainable. This creates powerful new business opportunities in some fields, and it creates complexity and unexpected interconnections between previously discrete policy domains. These challenge conventional policy processes and undermine the previously accepted assumption that innovation and economic growth are inherently 'good'. So,

- How can the levels of variety generation required for a dynamic economy be maintained in the context of the demands for sustainability?
- How can the governance structures of firms and markets be aligned with public environmental preferences?

In addressing these questions, all social and management science disciplines are welcomed, in keeping with ASEAT's long-standing theme of studying technological innovation from a variety of viewpoints.

Further details

- The Conference includes the Opening Ceremony of the Institute of Innovation Research. The Ceremony and Reception will be on April 7th; *Lord Sainsbury, UK Minis-*

ter will open the Institute and will give the Opening Lecture.

- The Conference will be on April 8-9th; the keynote Speaker will be *Professor Keith Pavitt*, Science and Technology Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex.
- Selected papers will be published in a book by Edward Elgar or in a Special Issue of a leading journal (*to be confirmed*).
- The Cost of the Conference is £190; this includes two lunches, one dinner, one reception and all documentation. (A lower delegate rate may be available for those with special circumstances; contact the organisers for details).
- Accommodation will be available in nearby UMIST/University of Manchester hotels.
- The conference format will be in the ASEAT-style: full papers submitted in advance and presented by discussants.

Deadline for submission of Abstracts is **July 12th, 2002**.

Contact

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