

NEWSLETTER

November 2023 Edition (6)

Event Summary:

End of Term Celebration

Where: INTS 1113

Date: Wednesday, November 29th Time: 11:30AM- 5:45PM



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Colin Milburn
UC Davis

Dr. Milburn's research focuses on the relations of literature, science, and technology. His interests include science fiction, gothic horror, the history of biology, the history of physics, nanotechnology, video games, and the digital humanities. He is a professor in the [English Department](#), the [Science and Technology Studies Department](#), and the [Cinema and Digital Media Department](#). He is also affiliated with the programs in [Cultural Studies](#), [Performance Studies](#), and [Critical Theory](#), as well as the [Center for Science and Innovation Studies](#). He is the department chair of the [Science and Technology Studies Department](#), as well as the director of the [ModLab](#) digital humanities laboratory.

Areas of focus for this meeting TBA.

Submitted by: Linda Jean Hall, September 2023

Remembering Bruno Latour

https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=308350&from=news&org=SBE&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery



Date Range

Tuesday November 14th 2023, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

EVENT SPONSOR

Program in Science, Technology, and Society
France-Stanford Center for Interdisciplinary Studies
Program in History and Philosophy of Science and Technology

Location

Stanford Humanities Center
424 Santa Teresa St, Stanford, CA 94305
Levinthal Hall

Among the most creative and influential scholars of the last 50 years, the protean Bruno Latour (1947-2022) was variously described as sociologist, philosopher, and

anthropologist. His books *Laboratory Life* (1979, with Steve Woolgar), *Science in Action* (1987), and *We Have Never Been Modern* (1991) helped create the interdisciplinary field of science & technology studies (STS). He challenged sociological conceptions of agency, action, and society. Latourian ideas and phrases such as “immutable mobiles,” “actor-network theory,” and “parliament of things” traveled widely in the social sciences. In his later career, Latour focused on climate change and human responsibility in *Facing Gaia* (2017), *On the Emergence of an Ecological Class* (2022, with Nikolaj Schultz), and other works. Latour was fascinated with art and theater; with collaborators, he mounted numerous exhibitions and performances. In this event, five scholars who knew and worked closely with him reflect on Latour’s life and work, with special attention to the future of his intellectual legacy.

Featured speakers:

Donna Haraway, UC Santa Cruz
Geoffrey Bowker, UC Irvine
Paul Edwards, Stanford University
Gabrielle Hecht, Stanford University
Duana Fullwiley, Stanford University

This event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the event. Registering helps us plan for food, but walk-ins are welcome. RSVP at <https://bit.ly/stanfordbrunolatour>

EVENT LINK

[See more about the event](#)

Research infrastructure in the social, behavioral and economic sciences is focus of newly restructured NSF program



The U.S. National Science Foundation plays a critical role in supporting research infrastructure across a wide range of scientific disciplines, from telescopes to field stations. But sometimes research infrastructure takes less tangible or visible forms—things like large data repositories, long-running surveys, or web-based research tools. The new [Research Infrastructure in the Social and Behavioral Sciences Program](https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=308350&from=news&org=SBE&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery), or RISBS, supports critical research infrastructure in the social, behavioral and economic sciences, and its creation is part of an effort to make this infrastructure more visible and draw attention to its importance.

https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=308350&from=news&org=SBE&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Submitted by: Yolanda Moses, September, 2023

Featured Recent STS Publication



A Place for Science and Technology Studies

Observation, Intervention, and Collaboration

By Jane Calvert

- Paperback
- 9780262546942
- Published: January 9, 2024
- Publisher: The MIT Press

An exploration of science and technology studies in eight different places, and the possibilities that arise for observation, intervention, and collaboration.

Where does science and technology studies (STS) belong? In *A Place for Science and Technology Studies*, Jane Calvert takes readers through eight different rooms—the laboratory, the conference room, the classroom, the coffee room, the art studio, the bioethics building, the policy room, and the ivory tower—investigating the possibilities and limitations of each for STS research.

Drawing from over a decade of work in synthetic biology, Calvert explores three different orientations for STS—observation, intervention, and

collaboration—to ask whether there is a place for STS, which, as an undisciplined field, often finds itself on the periphery of traditional institutions or dependent on more generously funded STEM disciplines. Using examples of failures and successes and tackling enduring concerns about the relations between social scientific researchers and their fields of study, Calvert argues for an approach to STS that is collaborative yet allows for autonomy.

<https://mitpress.mit.edu/9780262546942/a-place-for-science-and-technology-studies/>

Submitted by: Linda Jean Hall, September 2023