

## Michaelmas 2015: Week 8

3 December 2015



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## InSIS News

### Oxford City Debates: Urban Governance and its Discontents

InSIS is happy to announce the Oxford City Debates on 'Urban Governance and its Discontents' to be held on 18-19 February 2016 at St Anne's College, University of Oxford.

A cornerstone initiative of the Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities, this event proposes a new format for presenting and elaborating thinking on what urban governance does, when it succeeds and fails, and how it can be re-organised to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Academics on the cutting edge of global urban scholarship will be put face-to-face with established innovative practitioners - architects, activists, policy makers, and artists - in a series of public dialogues or debates. Each debate will be preceded by a small panel of academics and practitioners presenting papers that speak to the same key issues.

For more information please visit the [event webpage](#).

For information about the programme, visit [here](#)>

For registrations, visit [here](#)>

### Sophie Haines and Steve Rayner at the American Anthropological Association (AAA) Meeting

InSIS researcher Dr Sophie Haines co-convended and chaired three well attended and received sessions at the [American Anthropological Association meeting](#) in Denver, Colorado 18-22 November 2015. These sessions were:

-> Anticipating familiar/strange environments: the social lives of scientific predictions - [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).

Co-convended with Renzo Taddei (Federal University of Sao Paulo (UNIFESP)).

-> [Translating natures: relations, \(in\)determinacies and the work of translation in natural resource use](#). Co-

convended with Piergiorgio di Giminiani (Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile).

Sophie also presented a paper in the 'Anticipating familiar/strange environments - Part 2' session titled 'Reckoning Resources: Mapping and Imagining Belize's Water Futures'.

InSIS Director Professor Steve Rayner also contributed to the Part 2 session presenting his paper, 'Earth, Air, Fire, and Water: The Role of Prediction in the Management of Climatic Variability in South Australia'.

### InSIS gives evidence on genetically modified insects

On 6th November InSIS Deputy Director Dr Javier Lezaun and PhD student Christiaan de Koning submitted written evidence to an inquiry into genetically modified insects launched by the House of Lords' Science and Technology Committee. This inquiry is exploring the potential benefits and risks of biotechnological methods of insect control.

More information about the House of Lords' inquiry can be found [here](#).

### InSIS Seminar Series - 'Ecologies of Expertise' finished for 2015

This week saw the conclusion of the InSIS seminar series 'Ecologies of Expertise' for the 2015 Michaelmas term. All eight of the InSIS seminars this term have been well received and attended and we would like to thank everyone that was able to join us for these great seminars. Plans are currently underway for a 2016 seminar programme.

### Dr Sophie Haines in Geneva

InSIS researcher Dr Sophie Haines has been invited to attend a workshop of the Dialogue Platform on [Forecast-based Financing](#) in Geneva, Switzerland, on December 15-16, 2015. The workshop is hosted by

the [International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies \(IFRC\)](#) and the [German Red Cross Society \(GRC\)](#).

### **RAI conference - Anthropology, Weather and Climate Change**

InSIS researcher Dr Sophie Haines is co-organising a panel session at the Royal Anthropological Institute Conference: [Anthropology, Weather and Climate Change](#), to be held 27-29 March 2016 in London. The panel is titled, 'Knowing the Atmosphere: exploring conceptual and practical dimensions of weather and climate knowledge for environmental decision-making' and will be co-convened by Emma Gamett. The [call for papers](#) for this panel is now open (deadline January 8 2016).

### **Water Security 2015 conference**

InSIS Director Professor Steve Rayner and researcher Dr Sophie Haines will attend and participate in the [Water Security 2015](#) conference, to be held 9-11 December in Oxford. This three-day event will convene leading global thinkers and practitioners from government, enterprise, civil society, and academia to advance and debate risk-based analysis of water security. The event will be hosted by the [Oxford Martin School](#) and [St Catherine's College](#), Oxford.

### **Climate Change and the Law - Closing remarks**

InSIS Director Professor Steve Rayner provided closing remarks and a vote of thanks following a lecture on 'Climate Change and the Law' by Lord Carnwath, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, held at the Oxford University Examination Schools on 26 November 2015.

### **InSIS Special Seminar - Dr Thomas Cousins**

On 2nd December InSIS hosted Dr Thomas Cousins, from Stellenbosch University, who presented a special seminar titled, 'A mediating capacity: Amandla, sustenance, and transformations of labour in the contemporary South African countryside'. In this presentation Dr Cousins sketched the outline for a book project in which he examines the emergence of the gut as a new epistemic object in postcolonial South Africa by means of which life, labour, and value are constituted, mediated, and transformed.

### **InSIS open access publication**

The publication, 'Crafting a public for geoengineering', written by InSIS Deputy Director Dr Javier Lezaun and InSIS Researcher Dr Rob Bellamy, is now available through open access. For a copy, visit [here](#).

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## **Upcoming Events**

### **InSIS Special Seminar - Remaking Participation**

On Tuesday 15th December Dr Jason Chilvers (University of East Anglia) and Dr Matthew Kearnes (University of New South Wales) will give a special seminar at InSIS on the topic of their new book 'remaking participation: Science, Environment and Emergent Publics'.

Date: Tuesday, 15th December

Time: 3pm-5pm

Venue: Seminar Room, 64 Banbury Road, Oxford

[More info>](#)

### **Oxford City Debates: Urban Governance and its Discontents**

The Oxford City Debates on 'Urban Governance and its Discontents' will be held on 18-19 February 2016 at St Anne's College, University of Oxford. Academics on the cutting edge of global urban scholarship will be put face-to-face with established innovative practitioners - architects, activists, policy makers, and artists - in a series of public dialogues or debates.

Date: Thursday 18th - Friday 19th February

Venue: St Anne's College, Oxford

[More info>](#)

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## **Publications**

### **Journal Articles**

Bellamy, R. (2015) A Sociotechnical Framework for Governing Climate Engineering, *Science, Technology, & Human Values*. DOI: 10.1177/0162243915591855.

[Read>](#)

Bellamy, R. and Lezaun, J. (2015) Crafting a public for geoengineering, *Public Understanding of Science*. DOI: 10.1177/0963662515600965.

[Read>](#)

Lezaun, J and Montgomery, C. (2015) The Pharmaceutical Commons: Sharing and Exclusion in Global Health Drug Development, *Science, Technology & Human Values* 40(1): 3-29. [Read>](#)

Lezaun, J and Porter, N. (2015) Containment or Competition: Transgenic Animals in the One Health Agenda. *Social Science and Medicine*. 129: 96-105.

[Read>](#)

Woolgar, S. and Lezaun, J. (2015) Missing the (question) mark? What is a turn to ontology? *Social Studies of Science*. 45(3): 462-467.

[Read>](#)

## Books

Rayner, S. and Caine, M. (eds.) (2014) *The Hartwell approach to climate policy*. Earthscan, London. This book is part of the Earthscan Science in Society Series, also edited by Steve Rayner.

[More info>](#)

## Book Chapters

Funtowicz, S.O. and Ravetz, J.R. (2015) Peer Review and Quality Control. In: M. Gross and L. McGoey (eds.) *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioural Science, 2nd edition, Vol. 21*. Elsevier.

[More info>](#)

Heyward, C. and Rayner, S. (2015) Uneasy Expertise: Geoengineering, Social Science, and Democracy in the Anthropocene. In: M. Heazle and J. Kane (eds) *Policy Legitimacy, Science and Political Authority: Knowledge and Action in Liberal Democracies*. Routledge Earthscan, Abingdon.

[More info>](#)

Ravetz, J.R. (2015) From Descartes to Rumsfeld: The rise and decline of ignorance-of-ignorance. In M. Gross and L. McGoey (eds.) *International Handbook of Ignorance Studies*. Routledge.

[More info>](#)

Ravetz, J.R. and Funtowicz, S.O. (2015) Science, New forms of. In: J.D. Wright (ed), *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2nd edition, Vol. 21*. Elsevier.

[More info>](#)

Rayner, S. (2015) To know or not to know? A note on ignorance as a rhetorical resource in geoengineering debates. In M. Gross and L. McGoey (eds.) *International Handbook of Ignorance Studies*. Routledge.

[More info>](#)

## Book reviews

Lezaun, J. (2015) Democracy in America 3D. *Journal of Cultural Economy*. 8(2): 235-244.

[Read>](#)

Lezaun, J. (2015) Speculative Markets: Drug Circuits and Derivative Life in Nigeria, by Kristin Peterson, *Somatosphere*

[Read>](#)

## Other

Bellamy, R. (2015) Multicriteria Mapping of Climate Engineering, *International Federation of Operational Research Societies (FORS) Newsletter*. 9(3): 20.

[Read>](#)

Lezaun, J., and de Koning, C. (2015) Memorandum on regulatory pathways for genetically modified insects. House of Lords Science and Technology Committee inquiry into Genetically Modified Insects. [Read>](#)

Rayner, S. et. al. (2015) Oxford in 2065. *Oxford Today: The University Magazine*. 27(2): 36-44.

Climate Geoengineering Governance - Briefing Notes (June 2015), Climate Geoengineering Governance Project. [Here>](#)

For a full list of publications visit: <http://www.insis.ox.ac.uk/publications/>

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## **Press + blogs + video**

### **Steve Rayner at MVI Conference - Keynote available**

On 24 August InSIS Director Professor Steve Rayner presented a keynote address at the Fourth International Conference on Responsible Innovation in The Hague. A recording of the presentation, titled 'Responsible Innovation or Reckless Folly?', is now available to view.

[View here>](#)

### **2015 Mary Douglas Memorial Lecture - audio now available**

An audio recording of the 2015 Mary Douglas Memorial Lecture is now available at the [Oxford University Podcasts](#) webpage.

The Mary Douglas Memorial Lecture is an annual event held in the memory of Dame Mary Douglas. The lecture is sponsored by the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography at the University of Oxford, the Department of Anthropology at UCL, the Royal Anthropological Institute, and St Anne's College, Oxford.

The 2015 lecture, 'The Societalization of Social Problems: Recent Social Crises and the Civil Sphere' was presented by Professor Jeffrey C. Alexander, Lillian Chavenson Saden Professor of Sociology at Yale University.

[Listen here>](#)