

Hilary 2016: Week 8

11 March 2016



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InSIS News

Urban Governance and Its Discontents

On 18-19 February, the Urban Governance and its Discontents conference was held at St Anne's College, University of Oxford. A cornerstone initiative of the Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities, this event proposed 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 were put face-to-face with established innovative practitioners - architects, activists, policy makers, and artists - in a series of public dialogues or debates. Each debate was preceded by a small panel of academics and practitioners presenting papers that speak to the same key issues. The entire event was extremely well received by the over 150 students, academics and practitioners who attended.

This event was sponsored by Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities, All Souls College, and the Urban Transformations Group.

New Currents in Science: The Challenges of Quality

On 3 and 4 March InSIS members Jerome Ravetz, Peter Healey and Christiaan de Koning participated in the workshop "New Currents in Science: The Challenges of Quality". The workshop was organised and hosted by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Ispra, Italy. One of the key themes throughout the workshop was "Post-normal science".

The session was opened by Vladimir Šucha, Director-General of the JRC. Christiaan's presentation was titled "*The 'new' science? Genome editing: between open society of science and anarchy*", and Peter discussed "*The four distinct challenges of quality*".

The event was attended by a global audience of academics, policy makers, and social activists, and was broadcast live within the European Commission.

Prof Rayner speaks on the Paris Climate Change agreement

On 22 February InSIS Director Prof Steve Rayner gave a keynote address as part of the roundtable discussion "Road from Paris: Ensuring effective and equitable climate action" in New Delhi. Organised by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), one of India's largest multidisciplinary think tanks, the roundtable explored the implications of the Paris climate change agreement.

Climate Change Communication workshop

On 8 March InSIS researcher Dr Sophie Haines participated in a ESRC/Climate Outreach workshop on "Climate Change Communication and Public Engagement" as part of her current work under the IMPETUS project, which is funded under the NERC UK Droughts and Water Scarcity programme. The workshop brought together researchers from climate-related ESRC projects to share good practice in communication and public engagement.

Articles available through open access

Two articles by InSIS researcher Rob Bellamy are now available through open access. These articles can be accessed at the links below.

[Deliberative mapping of options for tackling climate change: Citizens and specialists 'open up' appraisal of geoengineering.](#)

[A Sociotechnical Framework for Governing Climate Engineering.](#)

Upcoming Events

New InSIS Seminar Series - Anthropological Approaches to Technics

A great variety of approaches are available to understand how technics intersect with society at different scales, recruiting cosmologies, knowledge, bodies, and materials in the process. This seminar series invites anthropologists and social scientists to reflect on the anthropological study of technics and techniques, transforming observations from the field into engaging and original accounts about people and the worlds they inhabit.

More information about this seminar series will be posted at the [InSIS website](#) as it becomes available.

Date: Tuesdays: 26 April, 3 May, 10 May, 17 May

Time: 3pm-5pm

Venue: Seminar Room, 64 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX26PN

Publications

Journal Articles

Bellamy, R., and Lezaun, J. (2016) Crafting a public for geoengineering, *Public Understanding of Science*, DOI: 10.1177/0963662515600965

[Read>](#)

Stewart, A. and S. Rayner (2015) Planning Mega-Event Legacies: Uncomfortable Knowledge for Host Cities. *Planning Perspectives*, DOI: 10.1080/02665433.2015.1043933.

[Read>](#)

Book Chapters

Linner, B-O. and Rayner, S. (2015) An Innovation Investment Framework? In K. Bäckstrand & E. Lövbrand, (eds) *Research Handbook on Climate Governance*. Edward Elgar, Cheltenham.

[More info>](#)

Other

Bellamy, R. and Healey, P. (2015) *A Report on the Climate Geoengineering Governance project Scenarios Workshop*. CGG.

[Read>](#)

Climate Geoengineering Governance - Briefing Notes (June 2015), Climate Geoengineering Governance Project.

[Here>](#)

Haines, S. and Lopez, A. (2015) Interdisciplinary working means stepping outside your comfort zone. Oxford Martin School *Opinion*.

[Read>](#)

Healey, P. and Rayner, S. (2015) Key Findings from the Climate Geoengineering Governance Project. CGG Working Paper no. 25. InSIS, Oxford.

[Read>](#)

Healey, P. and Rayner, S. (2015) Geoengineering and its governance: If geoengineering technologies

could help to address climate change, how should they be governed? Living with Environmental Change (LWEC) Policy and Practice Note No. 18.

[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.

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

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>](#)