

SATSU

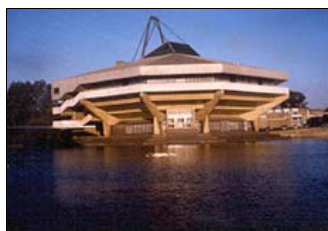
Science and Technology Studies Unit

Activities during
2006

Science & Technology
Governance

Sociology of
the Biosciences

Mobilities,
Informatics & Space



The University's Central Hall

Director

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The Borthwick Institute and RB Library

Research Students

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Joanna Mowbray's sculpture, 'Beyond and Within', on loan from Yorkshire Sculpture Park, is positioned outside Wentworth College

Visiting Fellow

Prof Juren Lin (University of Shandong, China)

Affiliated Research Fellows

Prof Roger Burrows (University of York)

Dr John Forrester (Stockholm Environment Institute York)

Prof Herbert Gottweiss (University of Vienna)

Dr Beth Kewell (University of York)

Prof Phillipe Laredo (University of Paris)

Dr Paul Martin (University of Nottingham)

Prof Mike Michael (University of London)

Dr Annemiek Nelis (Radboud University Nijmegen)

Dr Brian Rappert (University of Exeter)

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Wentworth College and Lake

*Photo Credits: University of York
Communications Office*

Origination: Graham Lewis

Activities During 2006

The Science and Technology Studies Unit specialises in understanding the complex dynamics of change in contemporary S&T networks. SATSU seeks to explore the socio-technical co-construction of knowledge, artefacts and public policy.

The Unit was initially established in the late 1980s to critique public/private links between university and industrial actors.

In subsequent years, the SATSU portfolio has expanded considerably to encompass a widening field of critique applied to technology and science.

This document provides a brief overview of SATSU's work during 2006

2006

Director's Introduction

Twelve months since the last review and yet again the Unit has seen a number of changes in staff and students as well as visitors from the UK and overseas. The most significant news in this regard is Paul Rosen's leaving the Unit to join the Stockholm Environment Institute - which has a research centre at York. Paul was with SATSU for over ten years and made a major contribution to work on new technologies, innovation and mobility. During this time he published many papers including the first major STS analysis of the bicycle industry, 'Framing Production', published by MIT Press. Paul will be greatly missed, though he remains an Associate Research Fellow. Peter Wright, a member of the Unit's Research & Planning Committee from Computer Sciences, also left to take up a Chair at Sheffield Hallam. Beth Kewell from York School of Management has joined the RPC in his place: she has a strong research interest in risk and public policy and will be advising the Unit in regard to its 'Science and Technology Governance' theme. One of our research students, Luke Cowie secured a Research Fellowship at Kings College London, while another, Eugenia Rodrigues, returned to Portugal and a teaching position there. We welcomed two new doctoral students, Abbi Hobbs and Emily Phillips.

Visitors included Juren Lin (Shandong University) for the year; and shorter visits by Ragna Zeiss (Amsterdam), Linda Rafnsdottir (Reykjavik), Ron Johnston (Sydney), Sakari Tamminen (Helsinki), Helena Machado (Minho) and Janet Hiller (Adelaide). A number of former Marie Curie Fellows returned via our hosting of the annual Postgraduate Forum for Genetics and Society under the direction of Douglas and Cox, and plans are in place for a research meeting of all our former MC Fellows in March 2007. Among these comings and goings was Andrew Webster's own 3 month Fellowship at the National Europe Centre, ANU, Canberra, which provided excellent time and space (in wonderful surroundings) for writing his new book and preparing

the first volume of Health, Technology and Society series that he is co-editing with Sally Wyatt.

A new collaboration with colleagues at Tokyo University on risk and public health governance was established with support from the Daiwa Foundation, while a major grant was won to provide support for a large Big Lottery Fund research programme for the 'third sector' on health and social care. Collaboration with colleagues in the Department of Sociology (such as Woods' work on Food Allergies) and across the York campus continues, with links to biology (on tissue engineering) and computer science (Reed's on HCI) and Management (on risk). Collaboration across the UK and abroad continues to develop, such as the 'Expectations' network coordinated by Nik Brown, Graham Lewis's international work relating to the regulation of pharmacogenetics, and Lena Eriksson's work on stem cells, tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, with a new network based in the north of the UK. Some existing links will be consolidated and drawn on for a new research initiative, the establishing of the Centre for Prospective Regulation, under Lewis' direction. The CPR's primary objective is to provide expert, evidence-based advice and consultancy about 'regulatory intelligence' of use to medium-term strategic thinking in an area of central concern to both public and private organisations.

Some activities came to an end, notably the ESRC Innovative Health Technologies Programme that Webster, Hazel-Gant and Pritchard co-ordinated. At the same time, the ESRC's stem cell initiative got up to full steam, directed by Webster and Hazel-Gant. Throughout the year the Unit was represented through members giving keynote and plenary addresses, attending the EASST and 4S meetings in Lausanne and Vancouver respectively, and 2007 promises to be similarly a busy time for all, as new grant bids, papers, and conference presentations are developed.

Prof. Andrew Webster

Core Research Areas

SATSU's key intellectual strengths lie in three related fields of enquiry, each of which serves as a basis of empirical research activity:

Science and Technology Governance

Work in the Unit seeks to understand how it is that developments in science and technology become objects for governance, both formally through policy-making and indirectly in terms of the governance of innovation. A number of activities contribute to this theme:

- ***Quality assured science: the role of standards in stabilising stem cell research***
Funding: ESRC. Status: Continuing. Contact: Lena Eriksson.
- ***PRIME (Policy Research in the Move Towards a European Research Area)***
Funding: European Commission. Status: Continuing. Contact: Andrew Webster.

Sociology of the Biosciences and Related Areas

The Unit maintains a consistent and sizeable research portfolio on the biosciences, with projects on pharmacogenetics, tissue engineering, stem cells, and food allergies.

- ***Haematopoietic Stem Cells: The Dynamics of Expectations in Innovation***
Funding: ESRC. Status: Continuing. Contact: Nik Brown.
- ***Variability in response to warfarin: a prospective analysis of pharmacogenetic and environmental factors***
Funding: Department of Health. Status: Continuing. Contact: Graham Lewis.
- ***Pharmacogenomics, diagnostic tests and clinician acceptance***
Funding: ESRC. Status: Completed. Contact: Graham Lewis.
- ***Food Allergies: Constructing a Sociological Agenda***
Funding: ESRC. Status: Continuing. Contact: Brian Woods

Mobilities, Informatics and Space

SATSU has a continuing research interest in the spatial reorganisation of social life arising in the context of new Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) including:

- ***BLISS—Constructing public confidence in ICT systems: Time, Dependability and Trust***
Funding: ESRC/EPSRC. Status: Completed. Contact: Darren Reed.
- ***Sorting Places Out – Classifications and its Consequences in an E-Society***
Funding: ESRC. Status: Completed. Contact: Brian Woods.
- ***I~Design Sociological and Psychological issues for inclusive design***
Funding: EPSRC. Status: Continuing. Contact: Darren Reed

Research Grants and Funding

Sorting Places Out? Classifications and its Consequences in an E-Society ESRC E-Society Programme, £97,858 (2004-2006). The project looks at the use of IT based marketing systems for classifying neighbourhoods, exploring the way in which ICTs are increasingly playing a role in the zoning and categorization of space. Contact: Brian Woods, Roger Burrows or Nick Gane. Collaborators: Nick Ellison and Simon Parker (University of Durham), and Michael Hardy (University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne).

BLISS - Constructing public confidence in ICT systems: time, dependability and trust ESRC/EPSRC, £175,000 (2004-2006). This project examines dependability/trust relations and how these relate to the temporal properties of ICT systems in public environments, specifically a real-time information for managing and using public (bus) transport. Contact: Darren Reed, Nik Brown or Andrew Webster. Collaborators: Julian Hemperson (ACIS), Peter Edwards (First Group) Darren Capes (City of York Council), Peter Wright and Andrew Monk (University of York).

Haematopoietic Stem Cells: The dynamics of expectations in innovation ESRC, £229,895 (2004-2007). The project builds on work in the Unit and elsewhere on the 'dynamics of expectations' in science and technology innovation – and in this case looks at the changing perspectives on the future of HSCs for treating cancer (since the 1950s) and now their use in regenerative medicine. Contact: Nik Brown. Collaborators: Paul Martin and Alison Kraft (University of Nottingham), Arie Rip (University of Twente) and Joan Fujimura (University of Wisconsin, Madison).

Quality assured science: the role of standards in stabilising stem cell research, ESRC, £120,000 (2004-2007). This interdisciplinary project brings together social and biologists to examine the development of Embry-

onic Stem Cells (ESC) research and innovation, specifically with regard to establishing new quality control and safety standards, developed and overseen by intermediary institutions. Such institutions bridge between the science base and clinical and commercial arenas and work to stabilise the present and enable the future development of the field. Contact: Andrew Webster or Lena Eriksson. Collaborators: Peter Andrews & Harry Moore (University of Sheffield).

Pharmacogenomics, diagnostic tests, and clinician acceptance: ESRC Science in Society programme, £158,000 (2004-2006). The study examines the extent to which doctors are likely to incorporate pharmacogenomics into clinical practice, and analyses the factors influencing uptake, focusing on cancer, asthma, cardiovascular disease, psychiatry and general practice, and explores the role that public health systems are having on introduction. In broader terms, the research will help us understand ways in which innovation occurs and new medical technologies become embedded in doctors' practice. Contact: Graham Lewis. Collaborators: Andy Hall (Northern Institute for Cancer Research, University of Newcastle). Details at: <http://www.york.ac.uk/res/pgx/>

Variability in response to warfarin: a prospective analysis of pharmacogenetic and environmental factors Department of Health, £842,000 (2004-2007). This large-scale prospective study on pharmacogenetics will determine the complex factors affecting patient response to warfarin, a widely used anti-coagulant drug, in order to develop an improved prescribing algorithm and cost effectiveness data. The SATSU component is analysing the views and experiences of patient and clinical staff with regard to introduction of pharmacogenetics into the clinical setting, helping to identify how this technology might be introduced into "real world" clinical situations, the extent of likely demand and up-

take, and therapeutic areas most likely to produce health benefits. Contacts: Graham Lewis, Andrew Webster, and Conor Douglas. Collaborators: Munir Pirmohamed, Dyfrig Hughes, Kevin Park, Cheng Hok Toh, Tom Walley, Paula Williamson (University of Liverpool), David Bentley, Panos Deloukas and Jane Rodgers (Sanger Institute, Cambridge), Ann Daly and Farhad Kamali (University of Newcastle upon Tyne), David Fitzmaurice (University of Birmingham), and Vanessa Martlew (Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospital Trust). Details at: <http://www.york.ac.uk/res/pgx/>

I~Design – Sociological and Psychological issues for inclusive design EPSRC, £200,000 (2004-2007). The I~Design project seeks to provide tools to improve quality of life for the wider population. It focuses on enabling industry to design products that can be used effectively by the population as a whole, including those who are older or disabled. The York aspect concerns itself with social and psychological issues, and the development of the conception of inclusive design. Contacts: Darren Reed, Andrew Monk. Collaborators: John Clarkson (University of Cambridge), Roger Coleman (RCA), Alan Newall (University of Dundee).

Mesenchymal Stem Cells – An analysis of expectations, prospects and potential European Commission (Osteocord), 2.5m euro (2005-2008). As part of the much larger international 'Osteocord' project led by colleagues in the Department of Biology at York, SATSU is analysing the networks involved in stem cell innovation using mesenchymal stem cells. This forms part of ongoing work on the 'dynamics of expectations' in different innovation contexts. Contact: Nik Brown. Collaborators: Paul Genever (PI – University of York) plus international partners.

Food Allergies: Constructing a Sociological Agenda. ESRC, £159,256 (2005- 2008). Allergies are becoming a salient feature of contemporary life, and there is a growing body of research ex-

ploring their medical, genetic and environmental causes. However, there is a relative dearth of studies which have explored the social implications and consequences of the rise in allergies. This research focuses on food allergies and food intolerance. We know very little about how lay and professional people define or explain food allergies and intolerance, how people live with them, or how those who cater for people's food and health needs in a variety of institutional settings manage this growing problem. This project is exploring these issues and in so doing developing a sociological understanding of how food allergies are defined, negotiated and managed. Contact: Brian Woods. Collaborators: Sarah Nettleton, Roger Burrows (University of York), and Anne Kerr (University of Leeds).

Developing a health services research agenda for emerging cellular, molecular and genomic technologies in cancer care US\$7,000 (2006-2007). US National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute. The goal of this US-based project is to examine the state of health services research in emerging technologies in cancer care and develop future directions through identifying methodological challenges and assessing funding priorities. Initiated at a special workshop in 2006, the resulting summary papers and subsequent publications will lay the foundation for expanding research on emerging technologies in cancer care over the next five years and beyond. Contact: Graham Lewis.

Establishment of Centre for Prospective Regulation (CPR) University of York/SATSU £12,000 (2006-2007). Funding to establish a new Centre for Prospective Regulation (CPR), a networked or 'virtual' centre comprising SATSU staff and other experts in the UK and other countries. The Centre will draw upon this network of expertise in regulation, governance and standards to determine factors shaping future developments using methodologies developed by the Centre. The Centre's primary objective is to provide expert, evidence-based advice and consultancy to public and private sector organi-

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Activities during 2006

Publications

Books

Andrew Webster

Webster, A. (ed.) (2006) *New Technologies in Health Care: Challenge, Change and Innovation*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Chapters

Nik Brown

Brown, N. Faulkner, A., Kent, J., Michael, M. (2006) Regulating hybridity - Policing Pollution in Xenotransplantation and Tissue Engineering. In A. Webster (ed.), *New Technologies in Health Care: Challenge, Change and Innovation*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 194-210.

Conor Douglas

Douglas, C. (2006) Scientific Literacy and the Public Understanding of Science, in Ritzer, G. (ed.) *Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell Publications, 4100-4104.

Lena Eriksson

Eriksson L. (2006) Sociology of Scientific Knowledge, in Ritzer, G. (ed.) *Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell Publications, 4093-100.

Eriksson, L. (2006) Strong Programme, in Ritzer, G. (ed.) *Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell Publications, 4846-8.

Eriksson, L. (2006) Social Construction, in Ritzer, G. (ed.) *Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell Publications

Darren Reed

Reed, D.J. (2006) Design for Inclusion, in Clarkson, J., Langdon, P. & Robinson, P. (eds.), *Designing Accessible Technology*. London: Springer, 53-64.

Andrew Webster

Webster, A. (2006) New Technologies in Health Care: Opening the Black Bag, in Webster, A (ed.),

New Technologies in Health Care: Challenge, Change and Innovation, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 1-8.

Brian Woods

Parr, S., Watson, N., Woods, B. (2006) Access, Agency and Normality: the Wheelchair and the Internet as Mediators of Disability, In Webster, A. (ed.), *New Technologies in Health Care: Challenge, Change and Innovation*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 161-174.

Woods, B (2006) Big Science and Collective Research, In Ritzer, G. (ed.) *Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell Publications, 275-7.

Woods, B (2006) Military Research and Science and War, In Ritzer, G. (ed.) *Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell Publications, 3037-40.

Woods, B (2006) Political Economy of Science, The, In Ritzer, G. (ed.) *Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell Publications, 3436-9.

Journal articles

Nik Brown

Brown, N., Kraft, A. and Martin, P. (2006) Imagining Blood - the promissory pasts of Haematopoietic Stem Cells, *Biosocieties*, 1(3): 329-348.

Martin, P., Coveny, P., Kraft, N., Brown, N. and Bath P. (2006) The Commercial Development of Stem Cell Technology: Lessons from the past, Strategies for the future, *Regenerative Medicine* 1 (6): 801-807.

Brown, N. and Kraft, A. (2006) Blood Ties - Banking the stem cell promise, *Technology Analysis and Strategic Management*, 3/4: 313-327.

Brown, N. (2006) The Visual Politics of Animals in Bioscience - Earmice in the Public Sphere, *Xenotransplantation - Journal of the International Xenotransplantation Association*, 13(6): 501-505.

Brown, N., Faulkner, A., Kent, J., Michael, M.

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(2006) Regulating Hybrids - 'making a mess' and 'cleaning up' in Tissue Engineering and Xenotransplantation, *Social Theory and Health*, 4: 1-24

Graham Lewis

Hopkins MM., Ibarreta, D., Gaisser, S., Enzing, C.M., Ryan, J., Martin, P.A., Lewis, G., Detmar, S., van den Akker-van Marle, M., Hedgecoe, A.M., Nightingale, P., Dreiling, M., Hartig, K.J., Vullings, W. & Forde, T. (2006) Putting pharmacogenetics into practice, *Nature Biotechnology*, 24(4): 403-410.

Andrew Webster

Webster, A. (2006) Social science ethics: the changing context for research, *Clinical Ethics*, 1: 39-42.

Reports and Working Papers

Lewis, G. and Webster, A. (with Martin, P., Smart, A.) (2006) *False Positive? The commercial and clinical development of pharmacogenetics*, University of York/University of Nottingham. (ISBN 978-0-9553542-1-2). www.york.ac.uk/res/pgx/

Lewis, G. (with Hedgecoe, A., Corrigan, O., Hogarth, S., Hopkins, M., Martin P. and Melzer D.), (2006) *Policy Issues in Pharmacogenetics: Policy Briefing from the UK Pharmacogenetics Study Group*. (ISBN 0-9553542-0-X). www.york.ac.uk/res/pgx/

Lewis, G. (with Hopkins M.M., Gaisser, S., Ryan, J., Enzing, C., Hartig, J., Vullings, W. and Forde T.), (2006) *Regulatory and Quality Assurance Frameworks for Pharmacogenetics: A Comparative Study of the US, EU, and Four EU Member States. Part 3 of the ESTO Study on Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics: State of the Art and Social and Economic Impacts*. European Commission Joint Research Centre/Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (EUR 22214 EN).

Lewis, G. (with Hopkins, MM., Nightingale, P., Gaisser, S., Dreiling, M., Hartig, J., Enzing, CM., Detmar, S., van den Akker-van Marle, ME., Vullings, W., Ryan, J., Forde, T., Martin, P., Hedgecoe, AM., Woelderink, A., Ibarreta, D.), *Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics: State-*

of-the-art and Potential Socio-economic Impact in the EU. Synthesis report prepared by E. Zika, D. Gurwitz and D. Ibarreta. European Commission JRC/IPTS (EUR 22214 EN).

Webster, A. et al. (2006) *Digital healthcare: the impact of information and communication technologies on health and healthcare*, London: The Royal Society.

Selected Conference Papers & Presentations

Nik Brown

The Promissory Consumption of Bioscience - public lecture, Centre for Life, Newcastle, Nov. 2006.

Shifting Tenses – from regimes of truth to regimes of hope, Department of Philosophy, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, June 2006.

Blood futures – the political economy of cord blood banking, Department of Science and Technology Studies, University College London, April 2006.

Rethinking Space, ESRC Seminar 'Laboratory Lifeworlds', Linacre College, University of Oxford, July 2006.

Helen Cox

The Implications of the 'New Genetics' on Professional Networks and the Structuring of Health Care Delivery, Postgraduate Forum on Genetics & Society, Annual Meeting, York, Aug. 2006.

The Implications of the 'New Genetics' for the Structuring of Health Care Delivery in the UK, Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) conference, Vancouver, Canada, Nov. 1-5, 2006.

Conor Douglas

Patient Mediation in New Medical Technologies - The Case of Pharmacogenetics, Postgraduate Forum on Genetics & Society, Annual Meeting, Cardiff, Sep. 2006.

Managing HuGE Expectations: Rhetorical Strategies in Human Genome Epidemiology, EASST conference, Lausanne, Switzerland, Aug. 2006.

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Lena Eriksson

Marked Standards and Standard Markers - on quality assurance and 'as if' strategies in hESC research. EASST conference, Lausanne, Switzerland, Aug. 2006.

Researching Experts. Leeds Social Sciences Institute seminar series, University of Leeds, 12 Oct. 2006.

Quality Assured Science—the role of standards in Stem Cell research. Centre for Stem Cell Biology seminar, University of Sheffield, 22 Nov. 2006.

Graham Lewis

Regulation in the driving seat: transitioning pharmacogenomics to the clinic, Genomics and Society: towards a robust science? conference, Centre for Society and Genomics/CESAGen, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 20-21 Apr. 2006.

Regulatory agencies and the translation of pharmacogenetics to the clinic, invited speaker, NordForsk international research network meeting on Pharmacogenetics, Reykjavik, Iceland, 8 Nov. 2006.

The role of regulatory agencies in the translation of pharmacogenetics to the clinic, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory/Wellcome Trust, annual meeting on Pharmacogenomics, New York, NY, 15-19 Nov. 2006.

Managing regulatory risk in pharmacogenetics, invited speaker, Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) conference: Designing the Future: Pharmacogenetic Trends, Cambridge, 30 Nov. 2006.

Regulatory and other factors influencing uptake of emerging technologies such as pharmacogenetic tests, invited speaker, US NIH/National Cancer Institute, Developing a Health Services Research Agenda on Cellular, Molecular and Genomic Emerging Technologies in Cancer Care, Bethesda MD, 7-8 Dec. 2006.

Darren Reed

Defamiliarising Design (with Light, A., and Blythe, M.). International conference 'Design Principles &

Practices', Imperial College London, 4-7 Jan. 2006.

Experiencing BLISS in between HCI and STS. Interact Lab seminar series, University of Sussex, 3 Feb. 2006.

Design for Inclusion. CWUAAT 06, University of Cambridge, 10-12 April 2006.

Experiencing BLISS when becoming a bus passenger. DIS '06: Proceedings of 6th ACM conference 'Designing Interactive systems'. University Park PA, 26-28 June 2006.

Technology Reminiscences of Older People. HCI 2006: Engage 'Designing with Elderly for Elderly' Workshop, Queen Mary College London, 11-15 Sep. 2006.

Place and the experience of BLISS. HCI '2006: Engage, Queen Mary College London, 11-15 Sep 2006.

Maria Eugenia Rodrigues

Lay Environmental Monitoring in Practice, SATSU seminar, University of York, 5 Dec 2006.

Humans as sensors: reframing 'the public' in contemporary environmental monitoring, EASST Conference, Lausanne, Switzerland, 23-26 Aug 2006.

From the mundane to the 'out of place': exploring the dynamics of public participation in environmental monitoring, ISA World Sociology Congress, Durban, South Africa, 23-29 July 2006.

Monitorização Ambiental e Participação Pública/ Environmental Monitoring and Public Participation, National Meeting, National Association of Research in Environment and Society (ANPPAS), Brasília, Brazil, 23-26 March 2006.

Andrew Webster

Pan-European and individual national perspectives on stem cells: developing a unified European regulatory approach, National Europe Centre, ANU, Australia, Feb. 2006.

Novelty and medical innovation, Social Science Seminar Programme, University of Sydney, Feb. 2006.

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Innovative health technologies and the social, University of Wollongong Seminar Series, Australia, Feb. 2006.

Clinical Trials, Meta-analysis and Health Technology Assessment: the Holy Trinity of EBM, IoP-BIOS Symposium: Searching for Gold Standards, 9 June 2006.

The Commodification of Basic Science: from a small (or large) public to a private good? EMBO 'Small science, big results', ESOF, July 2006.

Understanding the novelty of new medical technologies: some suggestions and some questions, CESAGen Seminar Series, Lancaster, July 2006.

Novelty, the new genetics and implications for policy, NOWGEN Seminar Series, Manchester, July 2006.

Evaluation, governance and moves to a socially robust assessment of health technology, Material Narratives of Technology in Society Workshop, University of Twente, The Netherlands, Oct 2006.

Health informatics and the distributed patient: considerations for a socially robust e-health, ICS International Symposium, University of York, Sep. 2006.

Standards as a form of governance, Society for the Social Studies of Science, Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada, Nov. 2006.

ICTs and Healthcare: user-centred devices and patient work, Wired for the Third Age Symposium, University of York, Dec. 2006.

Brian Woods

What sort of place is this and who says so? Joint Housing Studies & ESRC Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change (CRESC) Symposium on Housing Studies and Contemporary Research on Socio-Cultural Change: A Chance for a Dialogue, University of Manchester, 22-23 Feb. 2006.

Disconnections and Reconnections: The medicalisation and politicisation of wheelchairs and wheel-

chair users during the 20th Century, Institute for Health Research Perspectives in Science, Technology & Medicine Seminar Series, University of Lancaster, 11 May 2006.



Research Grants and Funding

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sations, focusing on existing and, more importantly, prospective regulatory challenges likely to impact on medium term strategies and success and which they will need to address. The Centre's substantive focus is on *new technologies*, including health and informatics technologies, and consumer product innovation. Contact: Graham Lewis.

Technical expertise and support services for Big Lottery Fund (BIG) research programme

Momenta/Big Lottery Fund, £335,000 (2006-2014). The consultancy is providing technical expertise and support for the BIG research programme that commences in 2007 with disbursement of up to £25 million of funding to UK Third Sector organisations and their research partners over 2007-2009. Oversight and service provision will continue until contract conclusion in 2014. Contacts: Graham Lewis and Andrew Webster. Collaborators: Prof Ian Shaw (Social Work and Social Policy, University of York), and Paul Rosen and Richard Morgan (Momenta).

Research Graduates

Luke Cowie Thesis title: *Medicine: its meaning, management and value*.

Helen Cox Thesis title: *The implications of the*

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SATSU profiles

A new feature profiling more recent arrivals in the Unit...

Dr Lena Eriksson

Lena returned to work at SATSU in August 2006 after seven months on maternity leave following the birth of Adama. Originally from Sweden, Lena moved to Cardiff in late 1999 and joined the University of York in 2005 after a brief stint back in her home country.

Her current research focuses on the role of standards in emerging disciplines in general, and human embryonic Stem Cells in particular. Standards, if successful, are the grammar of scientific work; without being immediately visible they determine how worlds are interpreted and understood. Human embryonic stem cell research has proved to be a particularly interesting case study because of the peculiar temporality attached to a 'pluripotent' stem cell: a biological organism or state currently defined by its 'not yet-ness', or, put differently, its postponed but unlimited potential. Other interests are the study of experts and expertise; how expert status is constructed and maintained and in what ways and to what extent it is linked to conceptions of expertise. This interest links back to Lena's PhD work on the so called Puztai affair that sparked off the GM food debate in Britain, and her subsequent follow-up study funded by the ESRC on how dissent is understood and managed in different national research cultures.

Lena is permanently bemused and charmed by British culture, apart from the national obsession with white bread, which she just does not get. Over the past two years she has however often caught herself humming along to Radio 4's *The Archers*.



**Lena with baby Adama
—and crocodile near River Ouse**



Darren Reed

Dr Darren Reed

Over the past two years Darren has looked to combine Science and Technology Studies (STS) and Human Computer Interaction, and has split his time between Sociology, Psychology and Computer Science departments. His research interests include mundane interaction with technologies in broad social contexts that incorporate people's histories experiences and expectations. He has worked on one project concerned with the 'inclusive design' of technology for older people, and another on computer-based transport management systems.

Darren hopes to develop his research interests this coming year, particularly in the area of older people's "technology reminiscences" of their early life, and the investigation of the potential impact on social isolation and mobility of transport information devices in urban environments. Underlying these projects is a growing interest in the relationship between processes of technology innovation and the membership category 'older person'.

Darren has also recently livened up the place with a return to his childhood love of waltz's, tango's and cha cha's—and will gladly sing a song from a musical to anyone who asks.

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new genetics on professional networks and the structuring of health delivery.

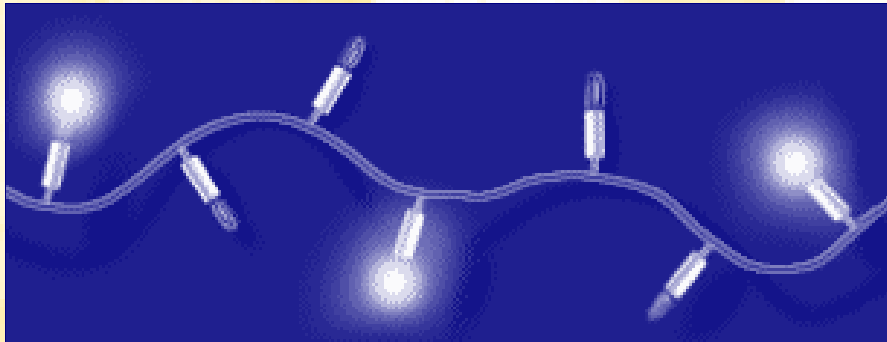
Conor Douglas Thesis title: *Exploring the co-construction of patients and new medical technologies.*

Oh Min Kwon Thesis title: *Traditional Korean medicine as a visual culture.*

Maria Eugénia Rodrigues Thesis title: *Science, New Technologies and the Publics: the Environmental Monitoring Systems.*

Abbi Hobbs Thesis title: *Reconstructing drug addiction: the development of vaccines for drug addiction.*

Emily Phillips Thesis title: *Progenitors of concern: A sociological account of stem cell innovation.*



Post-graduate study

New medical technologies and social informatics

MA in Social Research (ESRC recognised) with specialist routes in the sociology of new medical technologies, health and social informatics

MA by Sociology (by research) - this route allows students to undertake their MA by writing a single dissertation working closely with their research supervisor

MPhil/PhD – SATSU and the Department of Sociology have a vibrant post graduate research community and welcome enquiries from students interested in undertaking doctoral research related to our core areas of interest.

SATSU has an international reputation in the sociology of science, technology, health, and social informatics. Why not contact us for more information or to discuss the possibilities?

Contacting SATSU

SATSU welcomes collaboration with scholars of Science and Technology Studies worldwide. Please visit the SATSU website at: www.york.ac.uk/org/satsu/ for up to date information on our activities, or contact us directly using the addresses below.

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