AsSIST UK Founding resolution

General statement about AsSIST UK: aims and objectives

Motion to establish AsSIST UK as a membership organisation to represent and support research, scholarship and education in the fields of Science Technology and Innovation Studies.

The mission and role of AsSIST UK

- to represent our emerging field in discussions with academic communities, with research and education institutions and funding and policy bodies, and with wider publics
- to support the development of research and scholarship and related activities and bring this work to the attention of interested audiences
- to support trans-disciplinary collaboration and engagement with scientists, engineers, government, public and industry
- to support education and training and capacity development
- to explore mutually beneficial interaction and collaboration with other bodies in the field with cognate purposes – including but not limited to the European Association for Studies of Science and Technology and the BSA’s Science and Technology Studies group.

Organising principles/objectives

In pursuing these goals AsSIST UK will seek to be inclusive:

- by encompassing diverse research traditions (including but not limited to Science and Technology Studies, Innovation Studies, Science and Technology Policy, Political economy of Science and Technology, Economics of Innovation, History and Philosophy of Science, Technology and Medicine, Technology Management as well cognate approaches from geography, environmental studies, organization studies, policy studies etc)
- by attending to the diverse needs of research students and junior scholars and more established staff
- by attending to the needs of individuals and groups of scholars not just in larger research centers but also smaller centers and individuals located in other disciplinary contexts

We have established a development group through an extended dialogue with an inclusive range of constituencies. We nominate this development group, for a 2 year term, to carry forward our work.

The development group would be charged:
1) to develop a constitution and arrangements for governance, funding, membership etc
2) to organise a variety of activities including workshops
3) to organise a further national AsSIST UK conference that would be invited to approve proposals for new organizational arrangements, including the franchise and arrangements for a electing a properly representative executive committee and officers
4) to carry out other activities in support of the aims and objectives of AsSIST UK.

Values and organizing principles
- in its work the development group would seek to be inclusive, with balanced representation of the various analytical traditions and of different centres, larger and smaller, across the UK
- in furthering the organisation’s goals the development group would be empowered to co-opt additional members, to appoint officers etc. and to set up subgroups to include wider constituencies in various activities in support of the organisation’s goals (e.g. producing a website, newsletter, social media, doctoral researchers group).
- The emphasis will be on self-help activities and virtual forms of organization that minimize the need to apply potentially exclusive membership fees