

CSPO Perspectives

“GM Comes to sub-Saharan Africa (sort of)” by G. Pascal Zachary: *For many years genetically-modified crops have been held out as a panacea for Africa’s chief economic problem: poor-farm productivity. Fears of GM, however, have stopped the technology cold in sub-Saharan Africa in what is perhaps the most pervasive example of anti-technology backlash in the world. ... Despite the widespread caution, a new dynamic is emerging in Africa: a quiet, if somewhat slow, acceptance of GM on a case by case basis...* Now available on the CSPO website at www.cspo.org/home/perspectives/index.htm.

None Dare Call It Hubris: The Limits of Knowledge

“The central question that faces us is whether we will be able to position ourselves to choose wisely among alternative future trajectories or will simply blunder onward.” CSPO Founder and Chair (and ASU President) Michael Crow presents his perspective in the upcoming issue of *Issues In Science and Technology*. Now available at [http://www.cspo.org/home/cspoideas/MMC_Limits\(20070101\).pdf](http://www.cspo.org/home/cspoideas/MMC_Limits(20070101).pdf).

Shaping Science and Technology Policy: The Next Generation of Research

This new volume, edited by David H. Guston and Daniel Sarewitz, brings together an exciting and diverse group of emerging scholars, both practitioners and academic experts, to investigate current issues in science and technology policy. Essays explore such topics as globalization, the shifting boundary between public and private, informed consent in human participation in scientific research, intellectual property and university science, and the distribution of the costs and benefits of research. For more information, visit <http://www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress/books/2975.htm>

Challenges and Opportunities for Innovation in the Challenging Global Economy

The Atlanta Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy 2007, October 19-20, 2007, in Atlanta, GA, will investigate emerging issues of science, technology, and innovation in a global economy and society. *Paper or poster abstracts due February 5, 2007* to atlantaconference@pubpolicy.gatech.edu.

Weird Technologies

Check out this new feature on the [CSPO webpage](http://www.cspo.org/home/weirdtech/index.htm) which will regularly highlight “weird” technologies like a fire-fighting fridge magnet or vacuum shoes (archived at <http://www.cspo.org/home/weirdtech/index.htm>).

Science Cafés

This spring, the Center for Nanotechnology in Society will be hosting a series of Science Cafés at the [Arizona Science Center](#), the third Friday of the month from 5:30-6:30pm. Topics and speakers include:

- Jan 19: "Adaptive Technologies for the Central Nervous System: Are We Changing What It Means to be Human?" with bioengineer Ranu Jung and bioethicist Jason Robert.
- Feb 16: "Why Things (Still) Don't Fit: Human Variation and Ergonomics in the 21st Century" with Claire Gordon, a senior scientist with over 20 years experience in Army ergonomics.
- Mar 23: "Transferring Western Technology to Developing Countries: Good Intentions, Unexpected Outcomes" with Bert Jacobs and Jamey Wetmore.
- Apr 20: "Could a Computer Become Sentient? – Reductionism and Emergence in Science" with physicist Michael Thorpe and philosopher Eric Ramsey.
- May 18: "Forbidding Science: Are There Things We Just Shouldn't Know?" with Dan Sarewitz and Roy Curtiss.

For more information on these and other upcoming events of the Center for Nanotechnology in Society at Arizona State University, visit cns.asu.edu. To receive news about CNS-ASU activities and other items of interest regarding nanotechnology in society, subscribe to the newsletter by contacting cns@asu.edu.

Society, Technology and Science Courses at ASU

CSPO faculty and affiliates are teaching a number of undergraduate and graduate courses in Society, Technology and Science this spring semester. For a complete listing, visit <http://cspo.org/outreach/courses/>. For information on ASU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Science and Society requirement for B.S. degrees, see <http://clas.asu.edu/students/degreerequirements/scienceandsociety.htm>.

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