



The Rightful Place of Science?

May 16-19, 2010
Tempe, Arizona

You're invited

CSPO Conference 2010: The Rightful Place of Science?

When you register for CSPO's conference, *The Rightful Place of Science?*, you will have an opportunity to submit a roundtable discussion topic, with a very short abstract, for our Table Top Salons – a central feature of each day's program, where every participant is a discussant. This is just one way the conference will seek to frame the future agenda for engaging and shaping science policy. CSPO will present *The Rightful Place of Science?* in Tempe, AZ, May 16-19, 2010. Join your colleagues and friends – amid art, music, literature, media, humor and more – to rethink the role of science in society. Enjoy more of the things we like about getting together at conferences, and less of the predictable and orchestrated. You will be immersed in a world of rich and generative interaction aimed at fostering ideas, agendas and community at the interfaces of science, technology, politics, media and the arts. **Online registration will open in late January.** [\[Find out more\]](#)

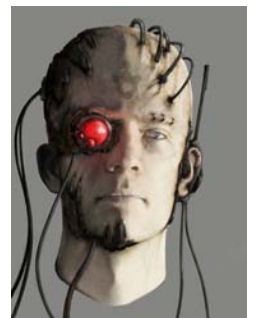
Ponder Now

Dan Sarewitz's monthly column debuts in *Nature*

CSPO's co-director, **Dan Sarewitz**, launched his monthly column "World View" in the December 3, 2009, issue of the journal *Nature*. His column will appear in the first issue of the month; Colin Macilwain, based in Edinburgh, UK, will write the column in the third issue of the month and will tackle research policy from a European viewpoint. "We asked Dan to do this because of his provocative and insightful views on how science and society interact, and look forward to this being a long and fruitful relationship," said Alexandra Witze, *Nature's* chief of correspondents and print news editor, Washington. In his first column, "**A tale of two sciences,**" Dan highlights a small, innovative approach in Massachusetts to reducing toxic chemicals that is struggling for survival even as billions are poured into federal research programs through the economic stimulus package. [\[Nature issue online\]](#)

Resistance is futile...

Clark Miller, CSPO associate director, asks "Should the production and use of human enhancement technologies for military purposes be placed in the hands of a civilian agency?" in his current **Soapbox** post. "It is hard to deny the potential military value of enhancements – although if we arrive at the point where we can protect our national security only through transforming ourselves into high-tech battle machines, I will count it a serious failure of humanism and the human race," says Clark. "Decisions about how to proceed with human enhancement – if at all – must be made democratically, with full recognition of the uncertainties that surround these technologies and the consequences for both individuals and the arguably increasingly fragile political underpinnings of democratic societies." [\[Read post\]](#)



Dan Sarewitz is now a permanent resident in *Nature*.

Watch Now

CSPO testimony before Senate Committee

Dan Sarewitz, CSPO co-director, and **John Alic**, formerly with the Office of Technology Assessment and



now an independent scholar, recently prepared testimony for the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, **“Accelerating Technological Advance for Climate Change: Lessons from Sixty Years of U.S. Innovation Policy.”** The testimony, drawn from and expanding on the recently released study *Innovation Policy for Climate Change* by CSPO and the Clean Air Task Force, was presented before the committee by John Alic on December 2, 2009. The testimony explains that the lessons of United States’ technology policy need to be applied to the problem of energy innovation, and makes four recommendations: to improve government performance, and expand innovation options and pathways, Congress and the administration should foster competition within government; to advance GHG-reducing technologies that lack a market rationale, government should selectively pursue energy-climate innovation using a public works model; to stimulate commercialization, policymakers must recognize the crucial role of demonstration projects in energy-climate innovation, especially for technologies with potential applications in the electric utility industry; and, to catalyze and accelerate innovation, government should become a major consumer of innovative energy technology products and systems. [\[Watch committee hearing webcast\]](#) [\[Download testimony \(pdf\)\]](#)

Read Now



CSPO in international publications

SPAIN: **Hannot Rodríguez**, an exchange scholar at CSPO, explores social resistance to scientific-technological progress through models of public trust, risk regulation, and the challenges of risk analysis in his paper **“La confianza pública en las instituciones reguladoras del riesgo: tres modelos de confianza para tres desafíos del análisis del riesgo”** published in the Spanish peer-reviewed journal *Argumentos de Razón Técnica*, an annual publication of the University of Seville. Hannot also has received a one-year extension on his grant from the Basque Government’s Department of Education, Universities and Research, to continue his postdoctoral work at CSPO. The grant is provided through the program Postdoctoral Fellowship for the Improvement of Research Personnel in a Foreign Country. Also in this issue of *Argumentos de Razón Técnica*, **Antonio Calleja López** writes about the **STIR project**, for which he is a graduate research assistant, in his article **“Ciencia, tecnología e integración social: el proyecto STIR (Socio-Technical Integration Research).”**

GERMANY: **Daniel Barben**, CSPO associate research professor, has written a chapter on reflexive knowledge, **“Reflexionswissen,”** in *Handbuch Wissenschaftspolitik [Handbook of Science Policy]*, published recently in Wiesbaden by VS Verlag. [\[Visit publisher’s site\]](#)

THE NETHERLANDS: **Daan Schuurbiens**, graduate research assistant on the **STIR project**, discusses his experiences on the project and at ASU in his article “Ethiek op de werkvloer: Bewustwording is het toverwoord” (pp. 18-21) in the November 2009 issue of **LEV magazine**, a publication of the Centre for Society and Genomics in The Hague.

UNITED KINGDOM: **David Guston**, co-director of CSPO and director of CNS-ASU, discusses CNS-ASU, nanotechnology legislation, public engagement and the National Citizens’ Technology Forum conducted by CNS-ASU, in his article **“Deliberating Nanotechnology in the US”** in the December 2009 issue of *People & Science*, the publication of the **British Science Association**.

Op-Ed about the myth of pure science

Dan Sarewitz, CSPO co-director, and **Sam Thornstrom** of the American Enterprise Institute, two scholars with different political orientations but common concerns, come together in a December 16, 2009, *Los Angeles Times* opinion piece, **“Climate change e-mail scandal underscores myth of pure science.”**

Congratulate Now

Sean Hays to be awarded Ph.D.

In November, **Sean Hays** successfully defended his doctoral dissertation, “A Genealogical Examination and Grounded Theory of the Role of Human Enhancement Technology in American Political Culture,” to become the first **CNS-ASU** end-to-end Ph.D. He was awarded his doctorate at ASU’s fall commencement ceremonies on December 17, 2009, from ASU’s **School of Government, Politics and Global Studies**. Sean will continue on at CNS-ASU to conduct his postdoctoral work.



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Mahmud Farooque joins staff of CSPO DC office

CSPO welcomes **Mahmud Farooque** to the staff as the associate director of CSPO's DC office. A former CSPO graduate research assistant in the 1990s, Mahmud will design and manage the day-to-day activities of the DC office and its projects. Prior to coming to CSPO, he was the managing director of the NEXTRANS Center at Purdue University, the associate director of research development in Physical Science and Engineering at Northwestern University, director of collaborative research projects at the City University of New York, and deputy director of the Policy Program at the New York Academy of Sciences. He holds a Ph.D. in science, technology and public policy from George Mason University and an MPA in technology and information policy from Syracuse University.

Gary Grossman to lead Arizona Faculties Council

Gary Grossman, associate professor in ASU's School of Letters and Sciences and at CSPO and the director of the Global Technology and Development Program, has been elected chair-elect of the **Arizona Faculties Council**, a consortium representing the faculties of all three state universities (ASU, NAU and UA) to the Arizona Board of Regents. Gary will serve as AFC's chair in the 2010-2011 academic year.

Netra Chhetri in Copenhagen

Netra Chhetri, assistant professor at CSPO and in ASU's School of Geographical Sciences, is attending the 15th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15) in Copenhagen. In addition to sharing the results of **World Wide Views on Global Warming** public forum events with COP15 delegates, he is participating in the public exhibits. As an organizer of ASU's participation in World Wide Views, Netra also is participating in an NSF grant awarded to the event's U.S. partners to conduct research on policy context, organization of the World Wide Views process, participant learning, and direct and indirect policy outcomes.

Support now

CSPO thrives with your support

Your involvement with CSPO at any level is appreciated. The continued success of CSPO depends on you. If you would like to show your support through a financial contribution, we have set up a secure **online form** for your convenience. Your financial contribution is tax deductible, and will be processed by the ASU Foundation, a nonprofit organization that exists to support Arizona State University. Your contribution to CSPO is greatly appreciated. Thank you! **[Support CSPO]**

"When will our consciences grow so tender that we will act to prevent human misery rather than avenge it?"

- Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962)