

OWL colloquium: Athena's platform for deliberating science-society interactions

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Athena's monthly colloquium



We are happy to announce that our next OWL colloquium speaker is

Dr. ir. Steven Flipse

In academic debate with **Dr. Pim Klaassen**

Date & time: **22 September 2017, 4-5 pm**

Venue: Room **WN-F619** in VU University
Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1085.

Abstract: Interaction Design for responsible Innovation

My research interest focuses on how to shape interactions between professionals (within or between organisations) to improve socially responsible innovation (RRI).

On a practical level, SocioTechnical Integration Research (STIR) is a method of studying interaction design for responsible innovation. For example, we have recently developed a game to discuss the possibilities and barriers of innovations with various stakeholders. In this way, involved parties which normally don't meet (scientists, politicians, public) get the opportunity to discuss matters in a structured manner. A second example encompasses a workshop-format in which we first map out, using a questionnaire, the initial opinions of various stakeholders regarding a certain topic. Subsequently, we discuss any differences in opinion during the workshop, to help stakeholders reflect on the different ways of thinking of all those involved.

On a more philosophical level, we consider the future of RRI – for example regarding the question of staying independent as a social science researcher. Also, we consider how to connect the various components of RRI (anticipation, inclusion, reflection and responsiveness).

About our speaker: Steven Flipse teaches at the Delft University of Technology, in the Science Communication research group. His research focusses on the role of communication and collaboration in the establishment of 'responsible research and innovation' (RRI) in scientific and technological practice, both in industry and academia. In particular, he studies how RRI can be supported in real-time, while research and development practices are occurring on the working floor. Together with his students he developed several tools and methods that help scientists and engineers in improving their work, while explicitly taking RRI into consideration. During this workshop, he will present several of these methods and tools.

About the Athena Institute

The Athena Institute at VU University Amsterdam is part of the science faculty. From its early days in the 1990s onwards, it has developed tools and methodologies to successfully deal with science-society interactions at all stages of research and innovation.

About the OWL colloquium

With its monthly OWL colloquium the Athena Institute aspires to stimulate an inter-, multi-, cross and trans-disciplinary process of deliberation about topics relating to the interface between science and society. Speakers from all corners both within and without academia (CSOs, policy, business and industry...) are invited to present on empirical, theoretical and methodological developments topical to bridging the variety of gaps that complicate science and society interactions.

For more information, please contact us at OWLcolloquium.falw@vu.nl.