

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. Eva Kunseler**, who will enter into academic debate with **Lisa Verwoerd**.

Date & time:

Friday 23th of March, 12:00-13:00

Venue:

WN-M129, VU University Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1085

In-between logics

Across diverse domains there is called for more open and inclusive knowledge production, for instance in fields of Responsible Research & Innovation, STS and sustainability science. However, the actual opening up of research practices appears not as straightforward as sometimes proposed. For instance, what are the implications for scientific rigor when you integrate 'lay' knowledge? And how to accommodate (academic) structures that seem to encourage disciplinary research rather than inter- and transdisciplinary? To better capture and understand these tensions Dr. Eva Kunseler employs two renowned logics (the modernist and the reflexive), which both have their valid position within policy-relevant research. She uses these to grasp how policy researchers maneuver between logics when they try to combine deliberative and technical-rational policy analysis. Epistemically, these approaches are marked by different quality principles and expert roles; leading to challenges of creating epistemic alignment.

Eva Kunseler is a researcher at the PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (Dutch: het Planbureau voor de Leefomgeving). She completed her PhD with the Environmental Policy Analysis group of the

Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM) at VU University Amsterdam. In her current position at the PBL department of Information Data and Methodology, Eva coordinates strategic research on participatory evaluation and open assessment methodology. Her academic research centers on the politics of environmental knowledge production and organizational learning. She is currently involved in transdisciplinary capacity-building in the H2020 Naturvation project on nature-based solutions and she coordinates the reflexive evaluation design of PBL's nature policy evaluation study.

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 l.verwoerd@vu.nl