



Universität
Basel

Research Project

The Epistemic, Socio-political and Institutional Formation of Research Fields: The Case of Science and Technology studies

Third-party funded project

Project title The Epistemic, Socio-political and Institutional Formation of Research Fields: The Case of Science and Technology studies

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Organisation / Research unit

Departement Gesellschaftswissenschaften / Wissenschaftsforschung (Maasen)

Department

Project start 01.10.2011

Probable end 30.09.2014

Status Completed

The research project will investigate the epistemic, socio-political and institutional conditions that have played a formative role in the constitution of this research field. It will enquire after the procedures, practices and institutions that have been involved in the production of STS discourses. The research approach is positioned in the tradition of the historical sociology of science, which differs from traditional disciplinary historiography as well as from theoretical models for analyzing research fields, such as developed in the field of Speciality Studies. The study will draw on Foucault's genealogical approach and Carabine's corresponding methodological guide for genealogical analysis. It will follow a mixed methods design to analyse three sets of case studies that include an in-depth investigation of STS programmes (I), comparative analysis of STS university initiatives (II), and professional associations, journals, conferences and newsletters of STS (III). Methods of investigation include a literature review, interviews, a bibliometric study and a workshop.

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