

**Expertise From Margin to Center -- Science, Politics and Democracy**  
**April 14 and 15**  
**Columbia University, Sociology Department, Knox Hall**

**Provisional Conference Schedule**

**April 14th**

**Thursday - 9am-10:30am**

**Panel 1- Space, Organization, Knowledge**

Faculty Discussant: Diane Vaughan (Columbia University)

David Reinecke (Princeton University, Sociology)

*"When Funding Fails: Planetary exploration at NASA in an Age of Austerity, 1967-1981"*

Robert Corban (Columbia University, History)

*"Decentered Calculation: Knowledge, Place and the "Wandering Professors" of Italian Agriculture, 1885-1935"*

Kevin Block (UC Berkeley, Rhetoric)

*"Built on Books: The Avery Library and the Formation of American Architectural Expertise at Columbia University"*

Pauline Lewis (UCLA, History)

*"The Ottoman Empire and the International Telegraph Union: Performing Equality through Practicing Expertise"*

**Thursday - 11 am-12:30 pm**

**Panel 2- Global and Local Knowledge**

Faculty Discussant: Gil Eyal (Columbia University)

Susana Muniz (SUNY-Albany, Sociology)

*"How many experts are too many? When the obsession with experts, evaluation, and obtaining results leads to failure"*

Margarita Rayzberg (Northwestern University, Sociology)

*"Fairness in the Field: How Practitioners of Randomized Controlled Field Experiments Manage Randomized Resource Allocation"*

Gozde Guran (Princeton University, Sociology)

*"Architects of Economic Reform: Building Syria's Social Market Economy"*

Anna Hanson (Northwestern University, Sociology)

*"The Securitization of Finance: New Alliances and Expertise in the Age of Terror"*

**Thursday - 1:30pm- 3pm**

**Panel 3- Governance and Social Movements**

Faculty Discussant: Gianpaolo Baiocchi (NYU)

Florencia Arancibia (Stony Brook University, Sociology)

*“Challenging the Safety of Glyphosate-based Pesticides in Argentina: Social Movements and Expertise”*

Abigail Coplin (Columbia University, Sociology)

*“The Limits of Politicized Science: Scientists and the State During China's GMO controversy”*

Geneva Smith (University of New Mexico, Anthropology)

*“Look North”: Conspiracy, Expertise, and the “Soyazacion” of Argentina*

Rosalind Donald (Columbia University, Communications)

*“Indigenous Climate Change Activism: A genealogical approach to understanding green governmentality, conduct and counter-conduct”*

**Thursday - 3:30pm- 5pm**

**Panel 4 - Law, Regulation, and the Emergence of States in Historical Context**

Faculty Discussant: Sheila Jasanoff (Harvard University)

Shira Shmu'ely (MIT, History, Anthropology and STS)

*“Experts for Pain: Nineteenth-Century Boundary Work of Physiologists and Regulators”*

Pierre Fink (Columbia University, Sociology)

*“Ideologies and Governmentalities: How Shifting Alliances Laid the Cornerstone of the Continental Welfare State”*

Gil Rothschild (UC Berkeley, Jurisprudence and Social Policy)

*“Knowledge of Punishing: a Sociological Inquiry of Sentencing Expertise”*

Steve Server (University of Chicago, Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science)

*“Sanitary Juggernaut or Jalopy?: Public Health in Mexico During Cadernismo (1934-1940)”*

**Thursday, 5pm:** Keynote Speaker Sheila Jasanoff (Harvard University)

**April 15th**

**Friday - 9am-10:30am**

**Panel 5- The Politics of Numbers**

Faculty Discussant: William Deringer (MIT)

Zachary Griffen (UCLA, Sociology)

*"Seeing Like a Firm: Economic Expertise from the "Education Production Function" to "Value Added Models"*

Kouross Esmali (NYU, Media, Culture and Communications)

*'Who's the Teacher Here? ... Or... EdTech in the Age of School Reform'*

Shreeharsh Kelkar (MIT, History, Anthropology and STS)

*'Reconfiguring Educational Expertise: MOOCs, Computer Science, and the Study of Learning'*

Ryan Hagen (Columbia University, Sociology)

*'Acts of God, Man and System: Knowledge, Technology, and the Construction of Disaster'*

**Friday - 11am-12:30 pm**

**Panel 6 - Doctors, Race and Marginality**

Faculty Discussant: Ruha Benjamin (Princeton University)

Eram Alan (University of Pennsylvania, History and Sociology of Science)

*"Brown Skin, White Coats: Foreign Medical Graduates Negotiate Expertise, 1965-"*

Alka Menon (Northwestern University, Sociology)

*"Evaluating Expertise: How to Judge a Cosmetic Surgeon"*

Sarah Brothers (Yale University, Sociology)

*"A Good Hit Doctor is Hard to Find: Affective Construction of Expertise in Injection Drug User Assisted Injection Interactions"*

Joan Robinson (Columbia University, Sociology)

*'Bringing the Pregnancy Test Home from the Hospital'*

**Friday - 1:30pm- 3 pm**

**Panel 7 - Body Knowledge**

Faculty Discussant: Alondra Nelson (Columbia University)

Cara Rock-Singer (Columbia University, Religion)

*"Our Bodies, Our Judaism"*

Madeleine Pape (University of Wisconsin-Madison, Sociology)

*"Experts of "Fair Play": Contesting the Science of Sex Difference Before the Court of Arbitration for Sport"*

Savina Balasubramanian (Northwestern University, Sociology)

*“Communicating Contraception: Communication Scientists and the Politics of Population Control and International Development, c. 1951-1980”*

**Friday - 3:30pm - 5 pm**

**Panel 8 - Interpretation of Evidence Using Technology in Biomedicine**

Faculty Discussant: Stephan Timmermans (UCLA)

Andrew Hoffman (McGill University, Social Studies of Science)

*“Pragmatic Perspectives on Stakeholder Deliberation: Rethinking Expertise and Engagement Through Prioritization Practices in Biomedical Research”*

Kellie Owens (Northwestern University, Sociology)

*“A Security Blanket or a False Idol?: Entanglements of Technology and Expertise in American Childbirth”*

Claire Maiers (University of Virginia, Sociology)

*“Interpreting Predictions: Reading Signs in the NICU”*

Moran Levy (Columbia University, Sociology)

*“Trial and Error: How The Search for Cancer Therapies Shaped Cancer Diagnosis”*

**Friday, 5pm:** Keynote Speaker Stephan Timmermans (UCLA)