

## NEWSLETTER – July 2021



This is the quarterly Newsletter from AsSIST-UK. The Newsletter is sent to all registered members of the Association. Please ensure your contact details are up to date, and if they have changed, contact the Executive Secretary, Andrew Webster at [andrew.webster@york.ac.uk](mailto:andrew.webster@york.ac.uk)

### Issue Number 14

For all ongoing news about the Association visit the website at [www.assist-uk.com](http://www.assist-uk.com)

## Executive Committee News

The AsSIST-UK Executive Committee has met on numerous occasions this past term to finalise plans for the annual Conference. The main items under discussion have been:

- Receiving and confirming acceptance of abstracts with the assistance of the scientific committee

- Planning the best use of the chosen virtual platform – Gathertown - and developing guidance for delegates which will be distributed soon.
- Finalising the programme itself.

## New Members

The Association is pleased to announce the following new Members:

### **Associate Professor Dr. Boon Cheong CHEW**

Social Shaping Technology, Technology Management

Deputy Director

UTeM International Center

Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM)

[bcchew@utem.edu.my](mailto:bcchew@utem.edu.my)

### **Dr Ben Collier**

Research covers the intersections of STS and critical criminology, studying how digital technologies and infrastructures become implicated in questions of crime, harm, and power.

Lecturer in Digital Methods

School of Social and Political Science

University of Edinburgh

Chrystal Macmillan Building

15a George Square

Edinburgh EH8 9LD

### **Dr Milena Kremakova**

Sociology and ethnography of mathematics; mathematical practice;

science as labour/employment/work. Institut für Soziologie & Zentrum für Schul- und

Bildungsforschung Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg

[milena.kremakova@soziologie.uni-halle.de](mailto:milena.kremakova@soziologie.uni-halle.de)

### **Dr Myra Morales Tirado**

Working on ST&I Policy Evaluation

Postdoc, Alliance Manchester Business School

[mayrismt@gmail.com](mailto:mayrismt@gmail.com)

### **Dr Helen Poulter**

Interdisciplinary research fellow with a background in energy governance, renewable energy engineering and land management, School of SPS, University of Edinburgh

[hpoulte2@exseed.ed.ac.uk](mailto:hpoulte2@exseed.ed.ac.uk)

### **Dr Jill Simpson**

'Relating to data through visualisation'. My data studies project explores the meaning-making processes at work in both the design of data visualisations and their interpretation by 'ordinary users'.

**SATSU, University of York**

[j.simpson@york.ac.uk](mailto:j.simpson@york.ac.uk)

### **Dr Robert Williams**

Sociology/Cultural Studies/Food and Agriculture

Senior Lecturer, Department of Philosophy

The University of Akron  
225 South Main Street  
Akron, OH 44325

## New Grants/Projects and research post opportunities at STIS centres

Stevienna de Saille is Co-I/Lead researcher on a newly funded UKRI/Trustworthy Autonomous Systems Pump Priming project: project, *Imagining Robotic Care: Identifying conflict and confluence in stakeholder imaginaries of autonomous care systems*.

Although autonomous systems are considered vital in addressing health-social care needs, research into stakeholder expectations is sparse. Identifying misalignment of expectations early can enhance research programmes, improve prototyping, and embed responsible innovation practices before projects start. Our project, **Imagining Robotic Care: Identifying conflict and confluence in stakeholder imaginaries of autonomous care systems** uses LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® as a hands-on method for collecting narrative data on the socio-technical “imaginaries” (collective, systemic visions of social transformation through technology) held by diverse stakeholders across the health-social care ecosystem, including roboticists, administrators, carers, and care users. By examining where these imaginaries cohere and conflict, we can build a whole-system understanding of how robots (and what kinds of robots) might be best deployed to support rather than destabilise "care" as a key societal value, aid TAS researchers in designing resilient systems aimed at filling urgent needs, and develop responsible innovation as a tool for enabling creative inclusion of stakeholders with different experience and expertise to enrich TAS activities across the Hub.

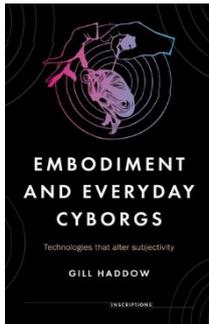
## Research and Policy related publications by Members

Aparicio A (2021) ‘That would break the containment’: the co-production of responsibility and safety-by-design in xenobiology. *Journal of Responsible Innovation*: 1–22. DOI: 10.1080/23299460.2021.1877479

Sara Bea, *Opt-out Policy and the Organ Shortage Problem: Critical Insights and Practical Considerations* <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33232867/>

Bea, S., 2021, In : *TRANSPLANTATION REVIEWS*. DOIs: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trre.2020.100589>

Hinterberger, A. & Bea, S., 2021, *Cambridge Handbook of Health Research Regulation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/cambridge-handbook-of-health-research-regulation/cells-animals-and-human-subjects/421DE382F717CEFFC929AFD15BDBE955>



Haddow, G., (2021) *Embodiment and Everyday Cyborgs: Technologies that Alter Subjectivity*, Manchester University Press, Manchester.  
<https://www.manchesteropenhive.com/subject/SOC>.

Pickersgill, M. (2021) 'A consideration of the social dimensions and implications of neuroimaging research in global health, as related to the theory-laden and theory-generating aspects of technology', *NeuroImage*, 236, 118086, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuroimage.2021.118086> (special issue: 'Neuroimaging and Global Health')

Dale, H. L. and Pickersgill, M. D. (2021) 'Child car seat safety advice: a public health concern', *Journal of Public Health*, 43, 1, e117-e118.

Harden, J., Black, R., Pickersgill, M., Shetty, J., McLellan, A., Brand, C., Small, M., McDonnell, J., Clarke, L., and Chin, R. F. (2021) 'Children's understanding of epilepsy: a qualitative study', *Epilepsy & Behavior*, 210, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.yebeh.2021>

Takashima, K., Morrison, M., and Minari J. (2021). Reflection on the enactment and impact of safety laws for regenerative medicine in Japan. *Stem Cell Reports*, Epub ahead of print:  
<https://d.docs.live.net/2d22b3b5c1c9e767/Desktop/A-UK/Newsletter/AsSIST-UK%20Newsletter%20July%202021.docx>

Gabby Samuel (KCL): Normative positions towards COVID-19 contact-tracing apps: findings from a large-scale qualitative study in nine European countries:  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09581596.2021.1925634>

Ethics review of big data research: What should stay and what should be reformed?  
<https://bmcomedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12910-021-00616-4>

Dr. Inga Ulnicane  
Framing governance for a contested emerging technology: insights from AI policy  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14494035.2020.1855800>

Good governance as a response to discontents? Déjà vu, or lessons for AI from other emerging technologies <https://doi.org/10.1080/03080188.2020.1840220>

Self-organization and steering in international research collaborations [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-61728-8\\_5](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-61728-8_5)

Ever-Changing Big Science and Research Infrastructures: Evolving European Union Policy  
<https://doi.org/10.4337/9781839100017.00010>

The Governance of dual-use research in the EU: The case of neuroscience  
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429351846-12>

Robert Williams, 2021, *Garrison State Hegemony in U.S. Politics* (peterlang.com)



## People

**Alberto Aparicio De Narvaez** will start in July a postdoctoral fellowship at the STS Program in Harvard University, as part of the initiative/project Global Observatory for Genome Editing

## Conferences/Lecture Series

Please follow the updates on the website for developments regarding the annual conference in September <https://assist-uk.com/assist-uk-annual-conference-2021/>

Please register as soon as possible.

## A-UK Annual PhD Prize for 2020/2021

The award for the annual £250 prize was made to **Dr Matjar Vidmar**, University of Edinburgh.

Title of the thesis: Scottish Space Sector and Innovation; A PERIpatetic study of an emerging innovation system and the roles of innovation intermediaries

The thesis' objective was to determine how and where STS and IS can be brought together. It does so through building its conceptual argument over a series of chapters focused around the Scottish space sector. The thesis offers a novel problem-driven strategy for doing this based on the concept of the 'PERIpatetic Approach' and a multi-level perspective from macro to micro levels, and the role of innovation intermediaries/networks therein. The thesis has led to a number of published papers and a book. The thesis has involved close engagement with those scientists/technologists in the field itself not simply as data sources but as co-producers of some of the ideas and their application not least through the ongoing Social Dimensions of Outer Space Network. The policy impact is very strong at University, regional, and national levels.