

Dear WTMC Members,

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2009 Diana Forsythe Award for Nelly Oudshoorn

Nelly Oudshoorn, Professor of Technology Dynamics and Healthcare (and chair of the WTMC Board), is the winner of the 2009 Diana Forsythe Award of the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA). She received this prize for her paper "Diagnosis at a distance. The invisible work of patients and health-care professionals in cardiac telemonitoring technologies" <<http://www.mb.utwente.nl/steps/news/bestanden/Abstract%20Diagnose%20at%20distance%20dec%202009.doc/>> published in *Sociology of Health and Illness*. 2008 vol. 30, nr 2, 272-295. The Diana Forsythe Award honors either the peer-reviewed AMIA conference paper, or the peer-reviewed article published during the previous year, that best exemplifies the spirit and scholarship of Diana Forsythe's work at the intersection of medical informatics and the social sciences. Nelly Oudshoorn is the first Dutch scholar honored by this Award.

New WTMC Coordinator: Teun Zuiderent-Jerak

We are delighted to announce that from January 1, 2010 onward, Teun Zuiderent-Jerak will be our new WTMC training program coordinator. Together with Willem Halfman, he will be responsible for organizing the WTMC workshops and schools. Teun is assistant professor at the section Healthcare Governance of the Institute of Health Policy and Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam. In 2007, he was awarded the Nicholas C. Mullins Award by the Society for Social Studies of Science. He is a WTMC graduate himself, and finished two MA programs: in Arts & Sciences, at Maastricht University, and ESST at Maastricht University and Roskilde University.

Goodbye to former WTMC Coordinator: Sally Wyatt

Soon after Teun Zuiderent-Jerak will begin as WTMC coordinator, we will say goodbye to Sally Wyatt. Sally Wyatt has served as WTMC training program coordinator ever since 2005. Next January, she will “do” her last WTMC workshop on “Technology in Surveillance Society” (yet she will be a “back up” coordinator for the remainder of 2010). Her work for WTMC, both in organizing courses and in advising the program committee and the board on issues concerning the training, has simply been invaluable! The courses she coordinated, initially together with Els Rommes and later with Willem Halffman, were impeccably organized and highly interesting. Moreover, during the workshops and schools, she has been an inspiring chair with a great sense of humour. We wish her good luck in her work for the Virtual Knowledge Studio in Amsterdam and Maastricht. We have organized a farewell party for Sally on January 29, 3:30 pm, at Soeterbeeck, for which the invitations have already been sent out.

New PhD Student Advisors in WTMC Board & Goodbye to the Former Advisors

Matthijs Kouw and Sabrina Sauer are the new advisors on behalf of the PhD students in the WTMC Board. Their first WTMC Board Meeting will be in February 2010. At that meeting, we will say goodbye to Sonja Zuiderent-Jerak and Claire Shelley-Egan. The WTMC Board congratulates Mattijs and Sabrina with their new positions, and would like to express its gratitude for the contributions by Sonja and Claire! Recently, they have finished the bi-annual questionnaire among WTMC PhD students, and have also taken the initiative to distribute a similar questionnaire among WTMC Graduates. The results of these questionnaires are of great help in evaluating the WTMC training program.

Solutions in the making for recent steep increase in WTMC PhD students

As mentioned in the previous Notes on WTMC, the number of PhD students registered for enrollment in WTMC has recently shown a staggering increase. For many years, we had about 20 PhD students in the first two years of the training program, yet now we have 35 of them enrolled and another 10 who are waiting to be enrolled. We are working on several solutions, one of these being the organization of one extra workshop in 2010, yet coordinated by others than our usual WTMC coordinators. Against this background with have two requests for WTMC PhD students and their supervisors.

1. Please finish—or stimulate PhD students to finish—the first two years of the WTMC training program (4 workshops, 2 summer schools) *as soon as possible*. Do not wait for “more interesting” courses to come, since our planning problems sharply increase when PhD students start skipping workshops and schools at a large scale. In the past, this was something we could easily deal with, yet now we would like to urge students to simply do the courses in the order offered. Skipping summer schools is especially unwise, since finishing the training program then takes a full additional year.

2. Please let us know which of the two following ideas for additional workshops seems most attractive to you, and which of the two you would actually subscribe for in case it would be organized in 2010:

- A workshop on quantitative methods for STS, like reading statistics, using co-word and citation analysis, and structuring questionnaires;
- A workshop on STS and Development Issues (technology “transfer” and appropriation, technology and migration issues, science in developing countries, indigenous knowledge, et cetera).

Please answer our question about preferred extra workshops **before January 6, 2010**, and send your answer to: Hannie.Spronck@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Steve Shapin Keynote Speaker at WTMC Annual Meeting, Maastricht, September 24-25, 2010

The next WTMC Annual Meeting has been scheduled for *Friday September 24 and Saturday September 25, 2010*. The first day of the meeting will be “WTMC only”, the second day will be organized in collaboration with the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Medizin, Naturwissenschaft und Technik* and the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technikgeschichte*. These societies have organized a conference on “Nutrition, Eating and Drinking”. At this conference, WTMC will host a keynote lecture and two sessions on WTMC related themes such as sustainable innovation in the food industry, ethical issues concerning genetically modified crops, and the history of slow food. The program for the sessions is still in the making. Yet we already know who will be our keynote lecturer on Saturday September 25, 2010. We are delighted to announce that this will be Steven Shapin, who will speak on the history of dietetics.