

A Special Issue IJSD round the themes of "Integrity & Quality in Science"

BACKGROUND

Scarcely a week passes without some drama about "FAKE NEWS" and about "ALTERNATIVE FACTS" (including, thus, disputes about "the facts" and, divergent colouring, connotations and interpretations given to the "same" facts). More generally, there is the theme of science-in-crisis, and the (indisputable?) fact of a weakening in public trust of scientists and science.

In this context of crisis, which cannot be separated from the ongoing dramas of social networking, environmental change and military confrontation, we are drawn back to a reflexion not only about "method" in science and in knowledge quality appraisal, but also about the existential, political and ethical conditions that might motivate scientific enquiry and render possible its practice and use in community.

Call for PAPERS & COMMENTS

The IJSD Editorial Team wishes to call for papers to make up a Special Issue, to be published during 2018, on the theme of « **INTEGRITY AND QUALITY IN SCIENCE** », with special reference to current societal preoccupations with social cohesion, conflict resolution and sustainability.

The impetus for this Special Issue comes from the European DEFORM Project's 1st International Workshop, held in Paris in January 2017, which included the following topics :

- ◆ Exchange of perspectives across the full spectrum of Research Misconduct (RM) observation, analysis and evaluation;
- ◆ Examples of RM "cases" and, by extension, improvement in awareness and accessibility of RM data and analyses;
- ◆ Feedback on the DEFORM Project's methods and first results;
- ◆ Suggestions about effective and appropriate documentation, including on-line tools and procedures, for the documents, data sets and analysis results;
- ◆ Suggestions about effective and appropriate communication strategies, paper, oral and electronic, relative to different RM stakeholders (R&D actors; public & private financing institutions; governance/law/regulatory agencies; civil society).

The DEFORM Workshop helped to set an agenda for post-project outreach including (but not limited to) uses of DEFORM Project results in professional and higher education. This includes (though is not limited to) the opportunity of collective publications — printed book, journal special issues, Internet — derived from the Workshop presentations and discussions.

For the IJSD Special Issue, the following forms of contributions will be considered:

- ◆ Articles of academic style and quality, not exceeding 8000 words in length, on any theoretical and empirical facets of the Special Issue's themes;



- ◆ Short Comments (typically between 1000 and 3000 words) that highlight recent events and topical issues in research integrity and knowledge quality. (Potential contributors should note that the IJSD Special Issue will appear in late 2018, so reports and discussions should take account of this publication lag.). Examples (non-exhaustive) are: feedback and reports on workshops, conferences and research projects; book reviews; insights from ‘case studies’; comments on research practices, institutional processes, methodology (knowledge quality assessment, research integrity, conflict analysis and resolution).

INTEGRITY & QUALITY in SCIENCE — An International challenge

This Call for Papers is directed in part to members of the DEFORM Project’s extended peer community, including all participants at the Project’s 1st and 2nd International Workshops.

In particular, the invitation for contributions will be distributed to participants at the PNS 3 Symposium on ‘POST-TRUTH’ AND A CRISIS OF TRUST? - PERSPECTIVES FROM POST-NORMAL SCIENCE AND EXTENDED CITIZEN PARTICIPATION, taking place at the University of Tübingen, “Alte Aula”, Münzgasse 30, Tübingen, Germany, on 25th & 26th September 2017.

See website : <http://www.izew.uni-tuebingen.de/aktuelles/pns-3-symposium.html>

The call is thus open worldwide, particularly for short contributions that highlight recent events and topical issues, to all members of the academic community, professional associations and civil society concerned with research integrity, knowledge quality, and societal issues of social cohesion, conflict and sustainability.

- ◆ Proposals for contributions should be sent, in WORD or PDF, as Abstracts (about 500 words), extended summaries (up to 2000 words) or full draft papers, to Professor Martin O’CONNOR (eplanete.blue@gmail.com) who has the operational responsibility for overseeing the Special Issue.
- ◆ The deadline for proposals is the 30 November 2017.
- ◆ A pre-selection will be made by the IJSD Editorial Team, and selected authors will be invited, no later than the 15 December, to submit their full Comments or Papers for peer review and revision following the normal IJSD process.
- ◆ If a sufficient variety of high quality contributions are received, a double issue of the IJSD will be programmed.

PNS 3 Symposium

'Post-truth' and a crisis of trust?

Perspectives from post-normal science and extended citizen participation

Tübingen, 25-26 September 2017

University of Tübingen, "Alte Aula", Münzgasse 30, Tübingen, Germany

25th September 2017 10:00 AM - 26th September 04:00 PM

Discussions of recent political events – notably the presidential election in the United States and the referendum in the United Kingdom to (Br)exit the European Union - frequently refer to ideas of 'post-truth', 'post-evidence' or 'post-factual' politics. In its ambiguity, the idea of a 'post-truth' age manifests a crisis of trust in both democratic and scientific institutions. At the same time, it implies the untenable assumption that politics and policies were once, and should be again, based on a unique truth provided by science (comprising the whole spectrum of natural and social sciences, and humanities).

Since the early 1990s, the post-normal science approach has been applied to issues in the science-society interfaces characterised by uncertainty and complexity, including a plurality of legitimate perspectives. These cases have been described in terms of uncertain facts, high stakes, disputed values and urgent decisions. In light of this, the conception of science as a privileged 'fact-provider' for governance seems increasingly unsatisfying and problematic.

This is the third PNS Symposium, coming after [PNS1 in Bergen, NORWAY](#) and [PNS2 in Ispra, ITALY](#).

Its purpose is to provide a space for discussing the current predicament of declining trust, increasing complexity and uncertainty in the science-society interfaces by deploying a variety of critical framings including, but not limited to, those inspired by post-normal science.

The purpose is to challenge current ideas of 'post-truth', as well as reductionist interpretations of facts and evidence, and explore ways for advancing the quality of knowledge inputs to policy-making. A parallel purpose is to show examples of communities beyond the scientific domain engaging to co-create usable knowledge, which has been dubbed "extended peer communities".

The meeting topics will be the following:

- 1) Extended peer communities in action. Experiences and challenges.
- 2) Trust as a cross-cutting theme in science and governance.
- 3) Successes and failures in the deployment of a post-normal science approach.
- 4) Hybridization between post-normal science and other approaches.
- 5) Theoretical and practical critiques to post-normal science.
- 6) Ethics and responsibility in the co-creation of application-oriented knowledge.

The symposium is organised in the format of a few invited keynote presentations, several conversations, as well as installations:

- The conversations will consist of brief 10 minute statements by no more than four participants followed by plenary discussions. They will be organised as thematic sessions based on the submissions received.
- The installations can consist of posters, objects or interactive initiatives

The detailed Symposium is available on the University of Tübingen website at:

<http://www.izew.uni-tuebingen.de/aktuelles/pns-3-symposium/programme.html>

To highlight the rich diversity of experiences, contributions will address (among other topics) current and historical issues of health, environment, emerging technologies, policy and politics. Particular emphasis is on applications that put into perspective current challenges to science and democracy, including science controversies and advice, and modes of citizen engagement.