



## 1st European IHPST Regional Conference

### Science as Culture in the European Context: Historical, Philosophical, and Educational Perspectives

Conference date: 22. – 25. August 2016

Conference Site: Europa-Universität Flensburg, Flensburg, Germany

Conference Chairs: Peter Heering (Europa-Universität Flensburg) & Claus Michelsen (Syddansk Universitet)

### Call for papers

C.P. Snow's famous book title became somewhat emblematic in the recent discussion about science and the humanities. What appears relevant in this respect is that it implies that science itself is a cultural activity – otherwise there wouldn't be *Two Cultures*. Taking this for granted, it is evident that Europe, in particular, is significantly influenced by the scientific culture and at the same time influenced this culture. From this perspective, a number of educational challenges as well as opportunities arise: Science can be taught as a cultural activity and not as a body of knowledge. Science can be understood as an important part of the European culture – therefore, it is relevant to include science and its cultural meaning in general education. Science education has to include historical, sociological and philosophical aspects in order to make it understandable in its cultural meaning.

This conference aims at bringing together science educators and historians, philosophers, and sociologists of science that are interested in these three perspectives. We invite in particular contributions that address topics from the following areas:

Which are theoretical backgrounds from the history, philosophy, or sociology of science that are in particular relevant for educational purposes? Which are issues where science educators see a particular potential for implementing contexts from these fields?

How can the emphasis on the history, philosophy, or sociology of science shape or structure educational approaches and case studies? What are lessons for the history, philosophy, and sociology of science that can be learned from educational experiences?

Are there empirical studies that provide evidence for effects that result from educational approaches with an emphasis on historical, philosophical, and sociological aspects? Are these effects related to the students' understanding of scientific contents, or to their understanding of the Nature of Science? Are there effects on the students' perception of science that can be related to educational approaches that explicitly address the cultural aspects of science?

With respect to these three areas, we are in particular interested in contributions that address these questions with a specific European perspective. This could be an inside perspective which is addressing examples from the European educational systems; however, this could also be an outside perspective. Of course, it is also possible to submit a proposal which does not address these questions but deals with topics that lie within the scope of the IHPST group (see [ihpst.net](http://ihpst.net)).

It is possible to submit proposals for individual papers (20 minutes each), posters, or sessions (which consist of three papers and a comment or four papers). The submission of abstracts as well as the registration will take place through the conference website (<https://goo.gl/oT6kdI>). The deadline for abstract submission is **February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. Abstracts should have not more than 200 words, for session proposals please provide an abstract for the session and abstracts for each of the contributions. Notification of acceptance will be sent out in early February.

Please note that each participant can only be first author of one paper (but also be a commentator or a session organizer). It will be required that the first author is present at the conference. Therefore, contributions will only be included in the program after the complete registration of the first author. In case that you have any questions, please feel free to contact the conference organizers at [ihpst16@uni-flensburg.de](mailto:ihpst16@uni-flensburg.de).