

Science, Technology, and Medicine (STM) Business Meeting Minutes
Friday, Dec 5th, 2014
AAA – Washington, DC

- STM Graduate Paper Prize Winners:
 - o Danya Glabau is a PhD candidate in Science and Technology Studies (STS) at Cornell University. The winning paper is titled, “The Moral Life of Epinephrine,” and draws on her ongoing dissertation research, an ethnographic study of food allergy advocacy in the United States.
 - o Jennifer J. Carroll is a doctoral candidate at the University of Washington, where she is completing her PhD in social anthropology and an MPH in epidemiology. The winning paper is titled, “For Lack of Wanting: Discourses of Desire in Ukrainian Opiate Substitution Therapy Programs.” The paper draws on her larger research project, which documents patient perspectives in Ukraine's institutionalized drug treatment programs, exploring what happens when standardized, evidence-based treatment protocols collide with a medical culture that equates the statistical and the political, that renders clinicians and patients suspicious of each other.
 - o Notes on the STM Graduate Paper Prize
 - There were a total of 11 papers submitted. We had three peer reviewers, who shortlisted 4 papers and finalized 2 papers. All the papers were blind peer reviewed.
 - Since there were two co-winners of the paper prize, each was awarded a certificate along with a \$75.00 check at the Society of Medical Anthropology (SMA) meeting and reception.

- Panel Updates: 2014 AAA
 - o Panel: Psyche and the Brain in the 21st Century, organized by Elizabeth Fein (Duquesne University) and Samantah Gottlieb (California State University, East Bay) was well attended with about 15 – 20 people. The discussion was fruitful for the audience and the panelists.
 - o Roundtable: Revisiting Rayna Rapp’s “Testing Women, Testing the Fetus”, organized by Lara Braff (San Diego State University) and Nayantara Sheoran (The Graduate Institute, Geneva) was an engaging discussion with about 35 people in attendance at any given time.

- Panel Planning: 2015 for AAA and 4S panels in Denver, CO.
 - o 4S Denver 2015
 - Panels
 - Danya Glabu, Eric Gauldin, and Nayantara Sheoran
 - Please contact me if you would like to do a STM sponsored panel for the 4S.
 - o AAA Denver 2015
 - Roundtable
 - STM is jointly working on a roundtable with CAR. Currently Diane Tober, Sallie Han, and Nayantara (Tara) Sheoran are working on organizing the roundtable.

- Panels
 - Ideas invited! We are looking for the STM community to reach out and let us know if there is a panel they would really like to see and or organize. We at STM can help with the organizational and sponsoring part. Time permitting, we would like to see “invited status” for the STM panels at the AAA 2015. Please email me (nayantara.sheoran@graduateinstitute.ch)
 - STM will be joining up with the SMA (Society of Medical Anthropology’s) SIG (Special Interest Groups) to participate on a special panel around the theme of “Black Bodies Matter.”
 - There is some potential interest from members of the CASTAC community to do a joint panel for AAA 2015. Nick Seaver is in the process of gauging this and will be in touch with more details shortly. If a panel does materialize, it will ideally engage both the CASTAC and STM communities theoretically and empirically.

- Engage with Somatosphere (and Commonplaces) about writing commitments from STM community
 - Two of the STM community (Betsey Brada and Nayantara Sheoran) are writing short pieces for Somatosphere
 - If anybody would like to contribute to Somatosphere, they should look at this as a perfect venue for highlight STM scholarship.

- Organize and implement SMA’s plan for the TAS (Take A Stand) policy initiative.
 - The Society of Medical Anthropology (SMA) has asked us to participate in a policy initiative that we consider important. After a long and robust discussion at the meeting, the decision has been made to pursue a STM sponsored TAS initiative.
 - The TAS initiative will be organized by Emily Wentzell, Christine Labuski, and Nayantara Sheoran loosely around the topic of female sexuality being pharmacutalized in contemporary United States. If you would like to participate in this project, please send me an email (nayantara.sheoran@graduateinstitute.ch).

- We discussed ways to formalize/improve our SIGs organizational structure. To that end, the following steps were pursued.
 - Elect a secretary to support the STM group and its membership coordination efforts.
 - Danya Glabu (PhD Candidate, Cornell) was nominated and unanimously elected as the new STM Secretary.
 - The Secretary position is designed to help facilitate the membership lists, the webpage, and online presence of the group. Also, the position will ensure continuity to a new chair, when the previous chair steps down.
 - Generate an “official” membership list
 - Within the year, we would like to create an “official” STM membership list, as it is something we might need to provide SMA down the road.
 - The plan is to include all people on the current list (updating their information of course) and built on that list.

- If you like to be removed from the list, or want to suggest names, please email Danya Glabu, our new Secretary
- Generate Institutional Memory
 - We are pursuing a conversation with the SMA webmaster to allow us to post the following information online:
 - Meeting agendas and minutes online.
 - Graduate Paper Prize winners over the years, along with titles of their papers.
 - The names of STM office holders and advisory committee members.
- People In Attendance
 - Sydney Yeager (Southern Methodist University)
 - Katharina Rynkiewich (Washington University in St. Louis)
 - Emily Wentzell (University of Iowa)
 - Danya Glabau (Cornell University)
 - Eric Gauldin (Texas State University)
 - Nick Seaver (UC Irvine)
 - Christine Labuski (Virginia Tech)
 - Anna Harris (Maastricht University)
 - Amy Moran Thomas (Brown)
 - Lara Wentworth (UC San Diego)
 - Diane Tober (USCF)
 - Margot Lyon (Australian National University)
 - Tazin Karim Daniels (MSU)
 - Elizabeth Fein (Duquesne)
 - Nayantara Sheoran (Graduate Institute, Geneva)

STM Advisory Committee

Lara Braff
Betsey Brada

Secretary

Danya Glabu

Chair

Nayantara Sheoran