



Anticipatory Governance of Emerging Technologies

UW Biological Futures Colloquium Series

David H. Guston



NSEC/Center for Nanotechnology in Society at Arizona State University



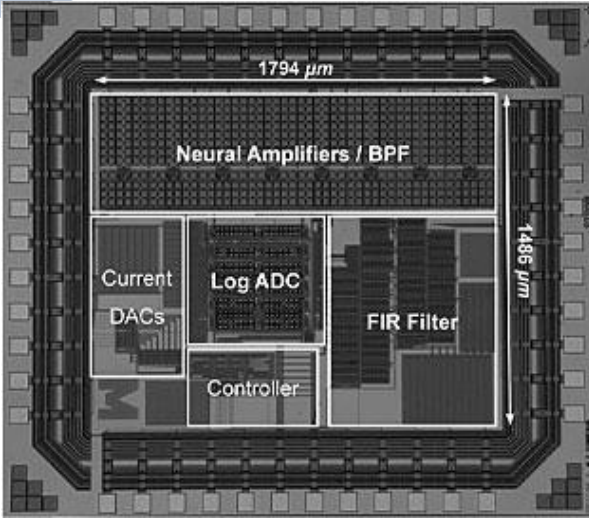
- **Research** the societal implications of nanotechnologies
- **Train** a community of scholars with new insight into the societal dimensions of nanoscale science & engineering (NSE)

- **Engage** the public, policy makers, business leaders, and NSE researchers in dialogues about the goals and implications of NSE
- **Partner** with NSE laboratories to introduce greater reflexiveness in the R&D process



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Problem Orientation



Nano-Bio-Info-Cogno

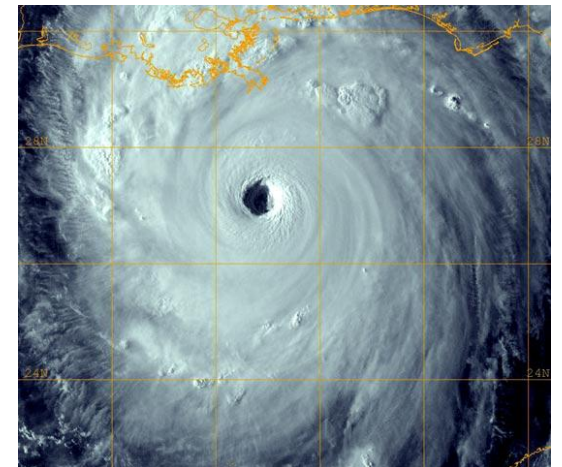


Eyjafjallajokull

Fukushima



Katrina

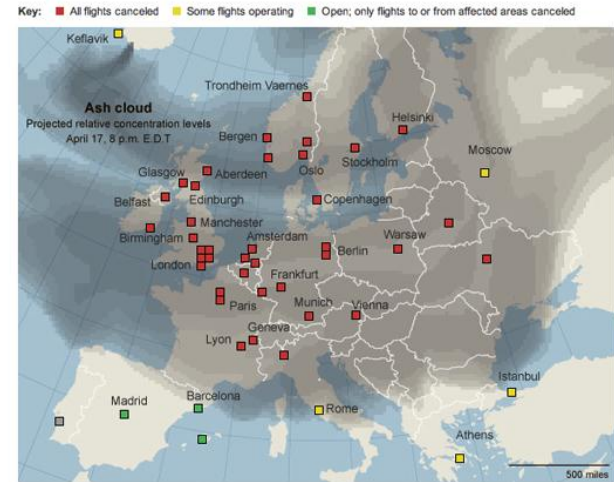


Problem Orientation



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Anticipatory Governance at CNS-ASU

Anticipatory Governance

Provides strategic vision

1. Foresight

All governance requires a disposition toward future

2. Engagement

Crucial normatively, strategically, pragmatically

3. Integration

Scientists know things we don't, and vice versa

4. Ensemble-ization

Because none of these works in isolation

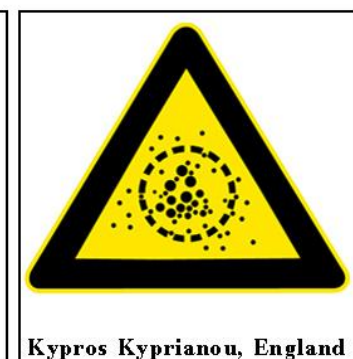
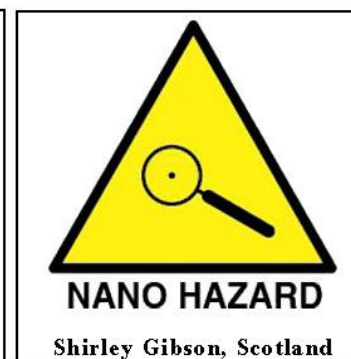
A broad-based capacity extended through society that can act on a variety of inputs to manage emerging knowledge-based technologies while such management is still possible.

Anticipate: from *ante-* and *capere*, “to take [into possession]” “beforehand”; related to capable and capacity and not a synonym for “expect,” “predict,” or “foresee”



Anticipatory Governance – Not Government

- Not “do” or “ban”
 - “Science finds, genius invents, industry applies, man adapts”
 - Moratoriums proposed by ETC Group and Friends of the Earth
- Wide array of mechanisms
 - Regulation
 - Licensing/restrictions
 - Liability/indemnification
 - Intellectual property
 - R&D funding & tax credits
 - Testing
 - Treaties
 - Public Understanding of Science
 - Informal Science Education
 - Public engagement
 - Public action
 - Priming
 - Routinization
 - Codes of conduct
 - Standards
 - Laboratory decisions

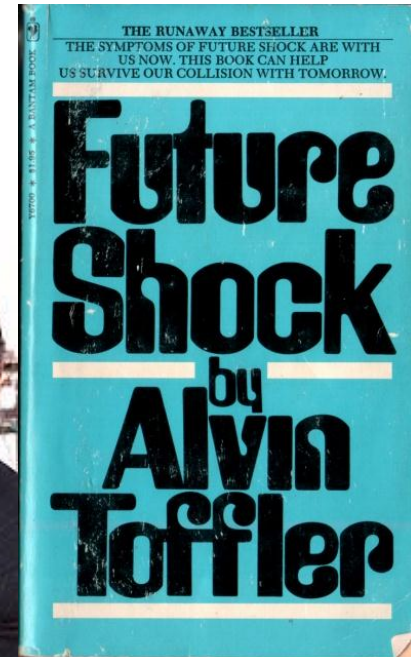


Anticipatory Governance – Not a New Idea, Just a New Capacity



“Competent social scientists should work hand-in-hand with natural scientists, so that problems may be solved as they arise, and so that many of them may not arise in the first instance.”

Detlev Bronk
Pres., JHU;
Pres., NAS;
Pres., Rockefeller U



“anticipatory democracy”



Four Warrants for Anticipatory Governance

“if we could use the tenets of psychohistory to guide ourselves we might avoid a great many troubles. But on the other hand, it might create troubles. It's impossible to tell in advance” – Isaac Asimov

1. **Stop-gap**: until we have prediction
2. **Fail-safe**: in case we can't get prediction
3. **Priority-setting**: capacity to predict may not be comprehensive and doesn't tell us how to deploy that capacity
4. **Generality**: prediction in some areas (nano) doesn't imply prediction in other emerging technologies (syn bio)

I. The Puzzle



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I.B. Two Answers



Michael Polanyi
“impossible and
nonsensical”



Frederick Soddy
“duty”

II. Polanyi & Prediction



“You can kill or mutilate the advance of science,
you cannot shape it.”

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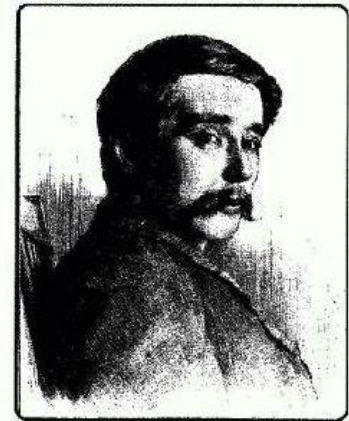
III. Soddy & Responsibility



**The Interpretation
of Radium, and
the Structure of
the Atom**

Frederick Soddy

The World Set Free



By H. G. Wells



IV. Did the Dog Bark?

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY **A** | MATHEMATICAL, PHYSICAL & ENGINEERING SCIENCES

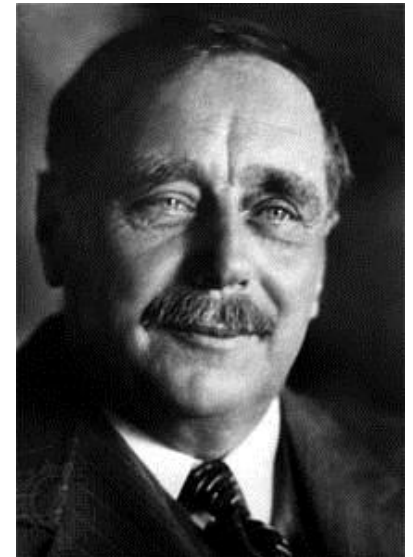
Discussion on Heavy Hydrogen: Opening Address

Lord Rutherford, N. V. Sidgwick, F. W. Aston, P. Harteck, F. Soddy, M. Polanyi, E. K. Rideal, R. H. Fowler, R. P. Bell, J. D. Bernal and W. Jevons

Proc. R. Soc. Lond. A 1934 144, 1-28
doi: 10.1098/rspa.1934.0032



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Ernest Rutherford

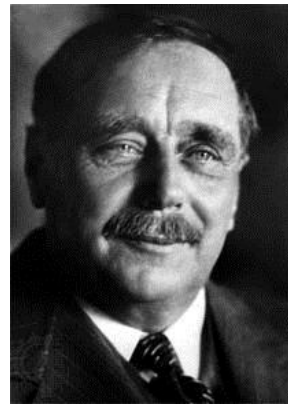
V. *The World Set Free*



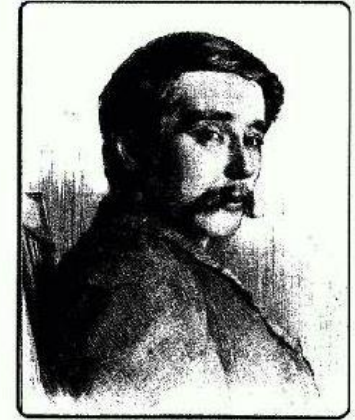
I would become
a philosopher



“his greatest novel”



The World Set Free



By H. G. Wells



The chain reaction

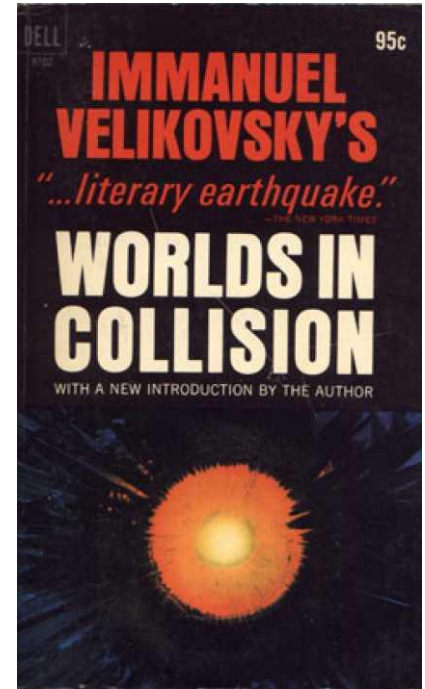
VI. Prediction or Plausibility?



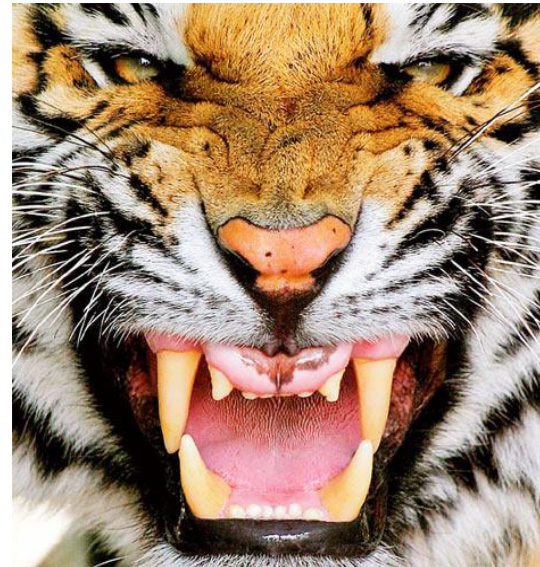
“The assessment of plausibility...is tacit.”



Reliability/exactitude
Systematic importance
Intrinsic interest

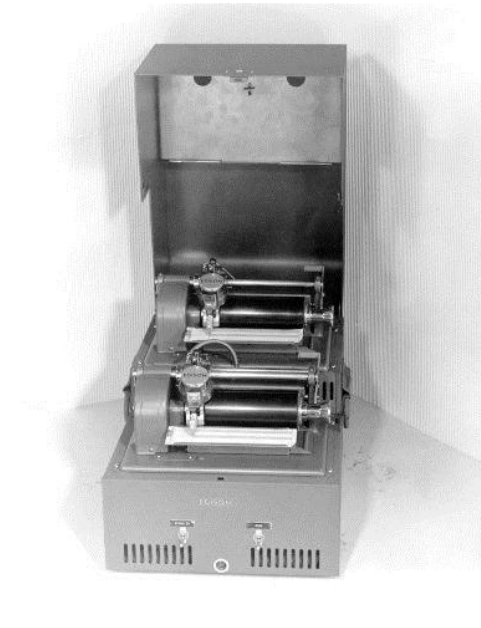


VI.B. Prediction or Plausibility?



If you are assembling bit of reality, is it not at this point that you want to start asking, “what happens if it is a tiger?”

VII. Back in the Booth



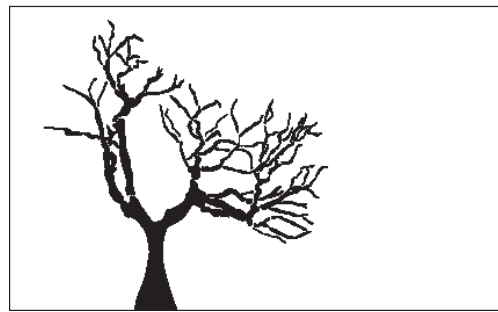
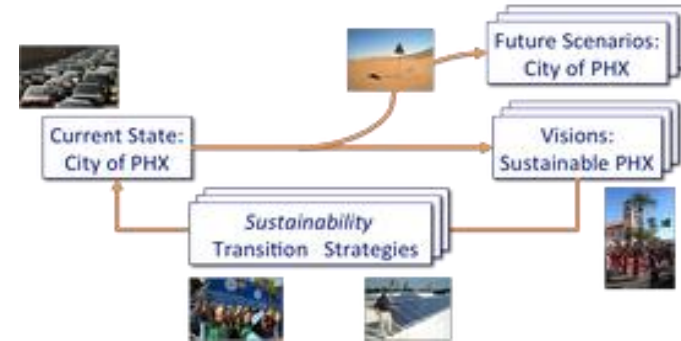
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, EDISON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

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Three Strands of Anticipation Research

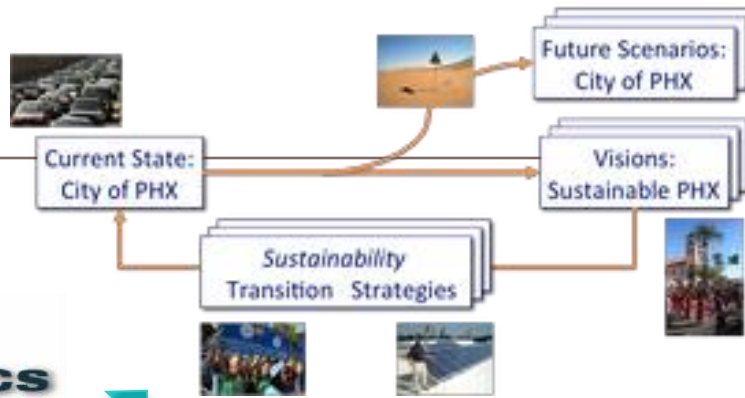
- Visioning
- Future Artifacts and Deliberation
- Plausibility

Sustainable Anticipatory Governance



Sustainable Anticipatory Governance

VISIONING



City of St. Paul Climate Adaptation Scenarios

The Future of Medical Diagnostics



Scenarios Matrix

		Value to Society	
		HIGH	LOW
Responsibility for Health	Individual		
	Institutional		



Solar to Fuels

Report on Interdisciplinary Workshop

Arizona State University, Thursday 4th March 2010, 10am-2pm

Sarah Davies, Cynthia Selin and Becky Allen

The Center for Nanotechnology in Society, Arizona State University

Anticipatory Governance
Visioning Workshop



FUTURE ARTIFACTS & DELIBERATION



EMERGE:
 SCIENTISTS AND
 ARTISTS IMAGINE
 THE FUTURES

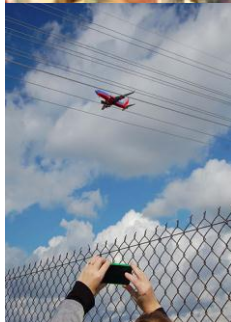
**MAKING AND
 HACKING:**
 EXPLORING
 DELIBERATIVE
 PRACTICES

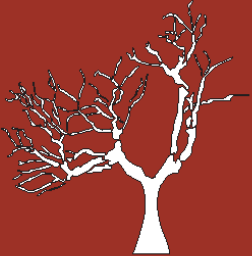
**MEDIATING
 FUTURES**

Nano Education article (2010)

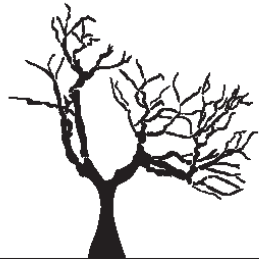


FINDING FUTURES





International Workshop on Plausibility, Tempe, AZ (2009)
CNS-ASU *vodcast* on Plausibility (2009)

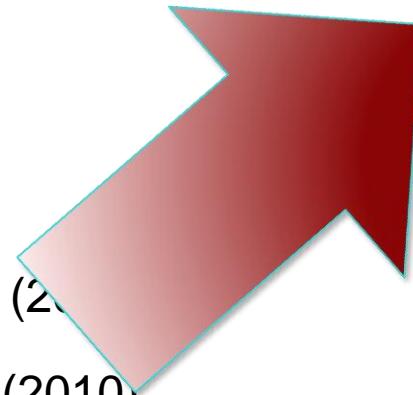


NanoFutures v.2
Survey on Plausibility

Special issue:

*International Journal of
Foresight and Innovation*
(call, 2011)

Writing workshop,
Ispra, Italy with the Joint
Research Centre (2012)



Technology in Society article (2010)

Science and Engineering Ethics article (2010)

Society for the Social Studies of Science (2010)


Society for Risk Analysis panel (2010) <David H. Guston>

Society for the Study of Nanotechnology and Emerging Technologies (2010)

Engagement

- NISE Net
 - Nano Days
 - Forums
- National Citizens' Technology Forum
 - 2008 Nano and Human Enhancement
- Science Cafes
- FutureScape Tours

Does nanotechnology belong in toys?



Nanosilver is found in many consumer products.

Silver is naturally antibacterial, and tiny nanosized silver particles are especially effective at killing germs. Nanosilver is used in bandages, cutting boards and washing machines—and at one time was even found in a toy bear.

Exposure to nanosilver products probably won't harm you, but widespread use of nanosilver could contaminate water supplies, kill fish or lead to highly resistant "superbugs."

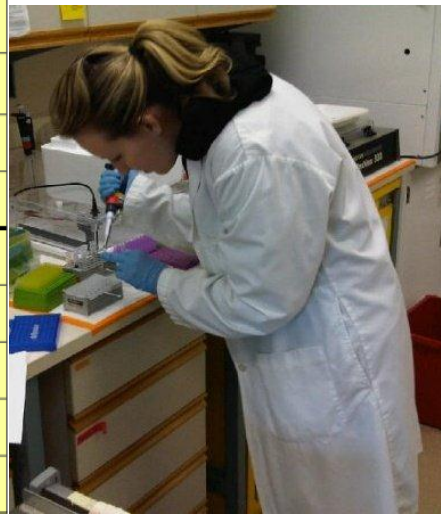
Any technology has risks and benefits. When one person or group benefits, others may be put at risk. Who should make decisions about whether to use nanotechnologies? Does it make sense to use nanosilver catheters to prevent infections in hospitals? What about using a nanosilver washing machine at home?



Integration

- Socio-Technical Integration Research (STIR)
 - Responsible Innovation
 - Public Value
- Education/Training
 - DC Summer Session
 - PhD +
 - Curricular

STS	Tempe	Beijing	Bio-Physics
Political Science	British Columbia	Oxford	Genetics
Public Affairs	Denver	Belfast	Material Science
Anthropology	Berkeley	Basel	Synthetic Biology
STS	Tempe	Seoul	Bio-Chemistry
Philosophy	Tempe	Madrid	Physics
Business	York	Leeds	Manufacturing
Philosophy	Golden	Dalian	Fuel Cells
Political Science	Walloon	Flanders	Neuroscience
Ethics	Delft	Tempe	Microbiology



CNS-ASU Leadership and Staff

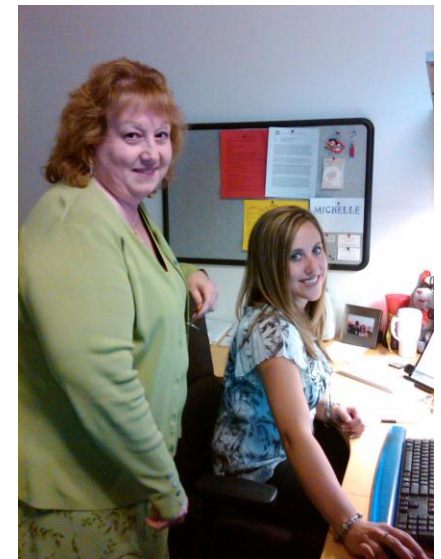


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Assistant directors J. Wetmore, C. Selin, E. Fisher

Staff:
R. Sanborn,
M. lafrat





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