

Prototyping Intervention!

Call for Participation and Contribution

'Prototyping Intervention!' is a two-day workshop aimed to explore intervention as a form of research. The workshop seeks to bring together scientists, artists, engineers, and designers (just to name a few popular candidates) to probe and discuss different takes on intervention, and interrogate the relations between intervention and investigation.

Organizers: Judith Igelsböck, Post/Doc Lab Engineering Responsibility, Munich Center for Technology in Society (MCTS), Technical University of Munich (TUM)

Location: Technical University of Munich/Vorhoelzer Forum

Dates: 24-25 October 2017

Deadline for Abstracts: 31 July 2017

Confirmed Keynote Speakers: Angus Cameron (University of Leicester), Friedrich Kirschner (Hochschule für Schauspielkunst Berlin, Society for Cultural Optimism), Alex Wilkie (Goldsmith, University of London), Teun Zuiderent-Jerak (Linköping University)

Scholars in science and technology studies (STS) have long called for opening up alternative modes of knowing and means of intervening. Pickering (2002), for instance, promotes anti-disciplinary approaches to research, arguing: "Perhaps it is time for the long march through the institutions: the laboratory (as creative scientists, not just observers), politics, art galleries and the ashram." Yet, it seems that most (STS) research remains distanced and detached, focusing on the traditional genres of description and explanation. What happens, if we – as researchers – commit to intervention? How to be an 'immersed participant' (Puig de la Bellacasa 2017) or an 'entwined partisan' (Thompson 2002)? Despite many calls for intervention, more concrete guides of how to perform interventions are scarce.

This workshop is devoted to getting to know, testing, and discussing intervention practices developed by inspiring people in and beyond STS (e.g. speculative research, situated intervention, social fiction, imaginary economics). In an anti-disciplinary spirit, the format will provide space for engaging with these intervention practices in an open-minded way, encouraging participants to reimagine the roles and responsibilities of the social and cultural researcher.

Call for participation and contribution: We invite people – from social science and beyond! – who share our interest in intervention as a form of (social scientific) research. Participants are encouraged to present their takes/ideas on intervention in short presentations or demos. Presentation is not a must. In case you just wish to participate, this is fine as well.

Please send a 250-500 words abstract (stating either what you wish to present/or why you wish to attend the workshop) and add a brief biographical note (max 100 words)

Attendance is free.

Inquiries about the workshop and the abstracts can be addressed to prototyping.intervention@mcts.tum.de