# Field Notes May 2023

WTMC is the Dutch research network and graduate school for Science and Technology Studies (STS). For more information see:

https://www.wtmc.eu

https://twitter.com/wtmc\_net

in https://www.linkedin.com/groups/119434/

Dear WTMC'ers, I find myself looking back on a successful Annual Meeting, it was lovely to see so many of you there. Also, I feel excited to continue the work to secure the future of WTMC and ensure the support of our institutions for the work that WTMC does, not just in training PhD students, but also in providing a platform for STS research in the Netherlands. Finally, we have been sad to learn about the passing of Loet leydesdorff who was not only a pioneer in the field, but also a mentor, and a committed and long-time member of WTMC. This episode the of the field notes contains updates about recent WTMC events and other news, Happy reading, Esther Turnhout, 30 May 2022

#### Writeshop

On March 9, 2023, a successful edition of the WTMC writeshop took place at the Social Impact Factory in Utrecht. Our senior discussant Lotte Krabbenborg (Radboud University) provided constructive commentary on the work-in-progress by three PhD candidates who have completed most of the WTMC training and were now looking forward to get (and give each other) some input on their written work. The next Writeshop will take place on October 9<sup>th</sup>, stay tuned for further details!

### **Annual Meeting**

On 24 February 2023, WTMC organized its first in person Annual Meeting since a long time. We had a full audience and a diverse <u>program</u> that included topics such as STS and activism and Decolonizing STS and a celebration of the intellectual legacies of Bruno Latour and Arie Rip.





Sarah Rose Bieszczad on Activism

Esha Shah on Decolonizing STS

#### Spring workshop



This year's spring workshop focused on the topic <u>STS at work: Perspectives on Labour</u> and took place as an in-person event, with 32 participants at Soeterbeeck from April 24, 2023 until April 26, 2023. Through many interesting presentations, discussions and activities, the workshop participants explored different strands of scholarship that draw attention to the labour dimension of science and technology, and also reflected on the labour involved in our own (institutional) practices as WTMC researchers. The workshop

featured presenations by Stefan de Jong (Erasmus University Rotterdam), Guus Dix (University of Twente), Koen Beumer (Utrecht University) and Darian Meacham (Maastricht University), and an online Q&A with Rida Qadri (Google, Ethical Team).

#### **Progress with the regulations**

This year is proving to be an intensive year in redrafting and deliberating changes in the structure of WTMC with a view to securing the support of our institutions. I am happy to be able to say that we are making good progress and we are on track to finalizing this process by the end of this year. In case you are interested to learn more, please don't hesitate to contact me.

## Changes in committees and the WTMC board

From the University of Twente, Alexandria Poole has agreed to take part in the WTMC board. Bernike Pasveer has stepped down as chair of the Education Committee. We would like to thank Bernike for her contribution and we are very happy that Koen Beumer has agreed to be the next chair of the education committee.