

# Boston Colloquium for Philosophy of Science

[www.bu.edu/cphs](http://www.bu.edu/cphs)

Joint Meeting with the  
History of Science Society

## Science in the Streets: Public Engagement Then and Now<sup>§</sup>

Thursday, November 21, 2013  
Westin Waterfront Hotel  
Harbor Ballroom III  
425 Summer Street, Boston

3–6 pm

This session will consist of two panel discussions exploring innovative ways of connecting ordinary citizens with science, and how the history of science can inform and enrich these efforts.

### PANEL I: SCIENCE AND SPECTACLE

#### Science Festivals and the Changing Culture of Science Engagement

**John Durant**  
Director of the MIT Museum and  
Executive Director of the Cambridge  
Science Festival

#### History of Science Through Comedy

**David Kaiser**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Panel discussion on current initiatives such as *Story Collider* as well as historical cases such as the “shocking” public spectacles of itinerant electrical showmen and Benjamin Franklin, the history of automata and court entertainment, and showmanship and dinosaur bones in the history of American paleontology.

### PANEL II: CROWDSOURCING SCIENCE: SCIENCE BY THE PEOPLE?

#### Crowdsourcing at the Smithsonian: From 1849 Weather Observers to Today's *Encyclopedia of Life*

**Pamela Henson**  
Director of the Institutional History Division,  
Smithsonian Institution Archives

#### Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Data: From Whewell's “Subordinate Labourers” to Maury's Seafarers

**Caren Cooper**  
Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Panel discussion on current initiatives such as *Zooniverse* and *Foldit* as well as historical cases such as networks of human earthquake observers and crowdsourcing in the history of astronomy.

<sup>§</sup> Cosponsored by the History of Science Society.

## Revisiting the Foundations of Statistics in the Era of Big Data: Scaling Up to Meet the Challenge\*\*

Friday, February 21, 2014  
Photonics Center, 9th Floor Colloquium Room  
8 St. Mary's Street, Room 906

10 am–Noon

### Computational Challenges in Genomic Medicine

**Jill Mesirov**  
Computational Biology and Bioinformatics,  
Broad Institute

### Selection, Significance, and Signification: Issues in High Energy Physics

**Kent Staley**  
Philosophy, Saint Louis University

1:30–5:30 pm

### Multi-Resolution Inference: An Engineering (Engineered?) Foundation of Statistical Inference

**Xiao-Li Meng**  
Statistics, Harvard University

### Is the Philosophy of Probabilism an Obstacle to Statistical Fraud Busting?

**Deborah Mayo**  
Philosophy, Virginia Tech

### Targeted Learning from Big Data

**Mark van der Laan**  
Biostatistics and Statistics,  
University of California, Berkeley

Panel Discussion

\*\*Cosponsored by the Department of Mathematics & Statistics  
at Boston University.

## Epistemic Injustice in Science

Friday, April 4, 2014  
Center for Student Services  
100 Bay State Road, Room 545

1–5 pm

### Varieties of Testimonial Injustice

**Miranda Fricker**  
Philosophy, University of Sheffield

### Epistemic Injustice and Responsible Trust in Science

**Heidi Grasswick**  
Philosophy, Middlebury College

### Hermeneutical Injustice and Agnotology in Science

**Miriam Solomon**  
Philosophy, Temple University

### Race, Gender and Neutral Science

**Evelynn Hammonds**  
History of Science and African American Studies,  
Harvard University

For further information and updates,  
visit our website: [www.bu.edu/cphs](http://www.bu.edu/cphs).

The Alfred I. Tauber Forum\*

## Evolutionary Explanations of Morality†

Friday, September 27, 2013  
Barristers Hall  
Boston University School of Law  
765 Commonwealth Avenue

1–6 pm

### Ethics as a Human Project

**Philip Kitcher**  
Philosophy, Columbia University

### Morality Did Not Evolve

**Edouard Machery**  
History and Philosophy of Science,  
University of Pittsburgh

### The Limits of Evolutionary Explanations of Morality

**Russell Powell**  
Philosophy, Boston University

### Why Evolution Doesn't Debunk Ethical Realism

**William FitzPatrick**  
Philosophy, University of Rochester

### Strategic Morality

**Robert Kurzban**  
Psychology, University of Pennsylvania

\* The annual Alfred I. Tauber Forum on Integrating Scientific Knowledge with Human Needs is named in honor of the center's second director. For further details, see [www.bu.edu/cphs/directors](http://www.bu.edu/cphs/directors).

† Supported by the Boston University Center for the Humanities.

The Robert S. Cohen Forum<sup>‡</sup>

## Time in Cosmology

Friday, October 18, 2013  
The Castle, 225 Bay State Road

1–5 pm

### Time and Law in Cosmology

**Lee Smolin**  
Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics

### Realism without Reification: How to Believe in Becoming

**Jenann Ismael**  
Philosophy, University of Arizona

### A Universe in Which Everything Changes Sooner or Later

**Roberto Mangabeira Unger**  
Harvard University

### Cosmological Laws without Real Time

**Chris Smeenk**  
Philosophy, University of Western Ontario

<sup>‡</sup> The annual Robert S. Cohen Forum on Contemporary Issues in Science Studies is named in honor of the center's cofounder and first director. For further details, see [www.bu.edu/cphs/directors](http://www.bu.edu/cphs/directors).

The Boston University  
Center for Philosophy  
& History of Science was  
founded in 1960 as an  
interdepartmental, inter-  
university forum on the  
nature of science. For over  
50 years the Colloquium  
has fostered the center's  
goal of building interdisci-  
plinary bridges between  
the humanities and sciences  
by bringing together the  
world's leading scholars  
in the philosophy, history,  
and social studies of science  
in an annual lecture series.

All lectures are free and open to  
the public. Selected proceedings  
of the colloquia are published by  
Springer in the series *Boston Studies*  
in the *Philosophy of Science*.

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# 2013-2014

# 54th Annual Program



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