



CALL FOR PAPERS

Encounters between STS and Social Work

Guest editors:

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Traditionally, social work and Science and Technology Studies (STS) have a somewhat underdeveloped relationship, wherein social work researchers to some degree have drawn on various insights from STS – especially actor-network theory – but where STS researchers rarely have studied social work as theory and practice. However, social work is rich with interesting developments such as the introduction of new evidence-based standards, elaborate IT systems, welfare technologies and telecare initiatives. At the Danish STS conference at Aarhus University in June 2016, the relation between social work and STS was explored in a track that attracted substantial interest and promising contributions.

Similarly, social work may potentially produce new insights for STS about the intimate relations between social change and society (understood in the broadest sense) and the technologies, techniques, objects, sciences, policies, affects, bodies and types of knowledge through which that change is mediated and negotiated.

We are thus calling for manuscripts for a special issue on social work in the journal *STS Encounters*. The special issue seeks to strengthen the dialogue between STS and social work (as both research and practice) in ways that productively challenges both fields and gives rise to new insights. The call is an open invitation to researchers for thinking and writing about STS and social work. As social work is a large and eclectic field, we invite contributions that reflect a variety of different practices and policies, including the related fields of social care, social pedagogy or community work. Further, contributions do not have to concern themselves specifically with Danish STS/social work, but may draw on other national and international contexts.

We invite contributions that reflect upon (but are not limited to):

- Empirical investigations of how social work practices incorporate ICTs
- The implementation of evidence-based systems in social work
- The functions of surveillance and technology in social work
- Theoretical discussions of how social work may contribute to STS and vice versa
- The promises and problems of (big) data in social work

- Participation, empowerment and inclusion in social work.
- The development and/or implementation of “welfare technologies”
- The objects, technologies and architectures of social work

Schedule

Submission of abstracts (intention to contribute)	December 1 st , 2017
Submission of full manuscripts	February 1 st , 2017
Notification of editorial acceptance or rejection	March 1 st , 2017
Notification of first round of peer-review	June 1 st , 2017
Deadline for revised papers	August 1 st , 2017
Notification of second round of peer-review	November 1 st , 2017
Submission of final revised papers	December 1 st , 2017
Publication of special issue	January 1 st , 2018

Instruction for authors

Submission of abstracts

Authors must submit an abstract of maximum 1000 words outlining the article. The editors will evaluate the degree to which the abstracts are within the scope of the call and provide general feedback to contributors. **Intentions to contribute and all general questions should be mailed to Rasmus Hoffmann Birk at rbirk@socsci.aau.dk.**

Submission of full papers

Encounters accept articles of no longer than 8000 words. The author can make his/her own choice of commonly accepted reference system. The journal uses endnotes but the amount and length of notes should be minimized. Manuscripts are submitted in an easily readable font and with double line space. Accepted file formats are rtf, doc and docx. **The articles must be written in English.**

Review process

Submissions will undergo an editorial review in relation to the intentions and scope of the call before being subjected to the normal peer-review process of STS Encounters (two rounds of review by two reviewers).

About STS Encounters

STS Encounters is published by the Danish Association for Science and Technology Studies (level 1 in the Danish BFI). The aim of the journal is to stimulate quality and collaboration in Danish STS research as well as to make Danish STS more visible nationally and internationally. In this context STS is understood as a broad and interdisciplinary field. STS Encounters encourages submissions from all relevant fields and subfields of social and cultural inquiry dealing with scientific and technological matters. The editorial board emphasizes that the journal is to offer a broad and nuanced view of the Danish STS environment. This applies to theoretical and analytical frameworks, choice of method and empirical areas.