

## **Balancing Gender Perceptions and Realities: The Case of the Petroleum Industry in Abu Dhabi, UAE**

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[http://www.pi.ac.ae/PI\\_ACA/arz/index.php](http://www.pi.ac.ae/PI_ACA/arz/index.php)

Vortrag am 9. November 2011  
Lecture on November 9, 2011

It is a documented fact that the fields of applied sciences and engineering are struggling to recruit and retain women, both in academia and the industry. Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) is the major sponsor of the Petroleum Institute's Women in Science and Engineering Program (WISE) with the goal of providing a steady stream of qualified women engineers and scientists to technical positions. With the petroleum industry being the ultimate male-dominated industry, the presentation discusses the results of research conducted on the perception and realities of women holding technical positions within the industry. The multi-phased project tracked perceptions of those already working in the petroleum industry focusing on the change in men's perceived notions vs. actual experiences. The findings are being used to develop programs, workshops and practices that aim to increase retention and reduce attrition, both in academic and the industry.

## **Gendering the Technological Imagination**

Anne Balsamo

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Vortrag am 12. Oktober 2011

Lecture on October 12, 2011

The relationship between gender and the technological imagination can be unpacked by examining some of the myths that persist about women and technological innovation. Insights are provided by feminist epistemology to elaborate the nature of agency that unfolds during the process of developing technological applications. To illustrate how the methods of hermeneutic reverse engineering are deployed in practice, and to elaborate a reproductive theory of technology, the development of an interactive multimedia documentary will be described. This opens a way, how to think with more complexity about the nature of the technological imagination, and to explore how this imagination might influence the development of technologies that serve more democratic social objectives.

**Methoden des De-Gendering informatischer Artefakte:  
Wie lassen sich problematische Vergeschlechtlichungen vermeiden?**

Corinna Bath

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[http://www2.hu-berlin.de/gkgeschlecht/kolleg/CV\\_cbath.pdf](http://www2.hu-berlin.de/gkgeschlecht/kolleg/CV_cbath.pdf)

Vortrag am 19. Oktober 2011

Lecture on October 19, 2011

Im Vortrag werden vier Dimensionen der Vergeschlechtlichung informatischer Artefakte vorgestellt und anhand einschlägiger Fallstudien (z.B. intelligente Häuser, frühe Textverarbeitungssysteme, Roboter) veranschaulicht: 1. strukturell bedingte Ausschlüsse bestimmter NutzerInnen, 2. Ein- und Festschreibungen der vorherrschenden geschlechtsspezifischen Arbeitsteilung, 3. Normalisierungen von Geschlecht durch explizite Repräsentationen geschlechtlicher Körper und Verhaltensweisen und 4. Geschlechterpolitiken der Grundlagenforschung und Epistemologien der Modellierung. Für jede dieser Problematiken werden Methoden aus der kritischen Technikgestaltung (z.B. Participatory Design, Reflective Design) vorgeschlagen, die einer Vergeschlechtlichung spezifisch entgegenwirken können.

# **Genderkompetenz in der LehrerInnenausbildung für das Fach Mathematik**

Andrea Blunck

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Vortrag am 7.Dezember 2011  
Lecture on December 7, 2011

Im Rahmen des Forschungsprojekts "GenderMathematik: Genderkompetenz als innovatives Element der Professionalisierung der LehrerInnenausbildung für das Fach Mathematik" wurde eine Lehrveranstaltung zur Vermittlung von Genderkompetenz für die Lehramtsausbildung im Fach Mathematik konzipiert, an acht deutschen Hochschulen erprobt, anschließend evaluiert und auf Basis der Evaluation weiter entwickelt. Im Vortrag wird über das Projekt berichtet, insbesondere über die konzeptionellen Grundlagen, die Inhalte und die Methoden der Lehrveranstaltung.

Das Projekt "GenderMathematik" ist ein Verbundprojekt der Universitäten Bielefeld, Gießen und Hamburg. Es wurde 2008-2010 vom BMBF gefördert.

# Computer Science, a Dialogue Between Social Sciences and Technology

Cecile K. M. Crutzen

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Vortrag am 23. November 2011  
Lecture on November 23, 2011

The dialogue between the technological and the social takes place for already a long time. Computer Science is an important actor in this dialogue, because its product development, its data processing, and the use of its products has changed human interaction.

The product ready-making by technology producers is not a neutral objective process. They act out of their own thoughts and opinions based in their own cultural and social surroundings, where the technological is often overestimated, where little place is for the social and where their own social acting and thinking became obvious. In addition the dialogue between the social and the technological is still represented as an oppositional dialogue, where the social is dependent on the technological. Gender as a process, is embedded in these cultural constructions and is always linked to the meaning of many dualism such as the dualism between the technological and the social.

In Computer Science technological knowledge and skills are presented as absolute. The uncontrollability of the social is veiled by means of abstraction and generalisation, its ambiguity and situatedness are hidden in models, where hierarchical structures and planned acting represent an illusory reality.

In the presentation the question "Is Computer Science part of Social Science?" will be discussed out of a gender perspective.

**Can women engineers be 'real engineers' and 'real women'?!  
Gendered belonging in engineering workplaces**

Wendy Faulkner

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- Beacon for Public Engagement, UK  
<http://www.issti.ed.ac.uk/people/person/50>

Vortrag am 18. Januar 2012  
Lecture on January 18, 2012

Becoming a 'member' in engineering involves more than getting a university degree. Ethnographic fieldwork reveals all sorts of subtle, taken-for-granted dynamics which serve to mark some people as 'core' and others as marginal in engineering workplaces. Many of these dynamics are about how well you fit into the dominant culture of the community, not how well you do the engineering. The everyday interactions that 'get the job done' also involve 'doing gender'. Women engineers typically face a paradox of being highly visible as women but *invisible* as engineers. This is linked to an underlying phenomenon by which the man engineer is seen (and felt) to be 'gender authentic' where the woman engineer is not. Women have to do far more identity work to assert both their professional and their gender identities, where men belong much more readily on both fronts.

## **Homunculus in the Hormones**

Rebecca Jordan-Young

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<http://barnard.edu/profiles/rebecca-jordan-young>

Vortrag am 14. Dezember 2011

Lecture on December 14, 2011

This talk will examine research related to brain organization theory, which holds that early steroid hormones are responsible for permanent sex-typed patterns of cognitive skill, personality, sexuality, and non-erotic interests. The talk will have three main parts: 1) I will review the structure of brain organization research in humans; 2) I will demonstrate the use of 'symmetry principles' and explain how they are superior, in certain cases, to traditional meta-analysis for determining whether a theory is generally supported by empirical studies; and 3) Using the case study of research on so-called "sex-typed interests" which supposedly underlie male-female differences in occupational interests and domesticity, I will show deep gaps and major contradictions in the evidence that is usually taken to argue that steroid hormones create initial predispositions for such traits as aggression, nurturing, and orientation towards "systems" or "objects" versus people. In sum, I will argue that longstanding ideas about hormones as "male" and "female" essences cause scientists to perceive patterns of masculinity and femininity in their findings, even when this requires reversal of definitions, ignoring or "forgetting" earlier results, and other non-rational approaches to data.

## **Gefährliche Milch und mütterliche Nahrung - Chemische Analysen im 18. Jahrhundert**

Barbara Orland

Dr., Vertr.-Professorin für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Universität Konstanz, D;  
wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin, Programm Wissenschaftsforschung, Universität Basel,  
CH

<http://wifo.unibas.ch/personen/barbara-orland/>

Vortrag am 16. November 2011  
Lecture on November 16, 2011

Ärzte und Chemiker des 18. Jahrhunderts interessierte an der Milch vor allem zweierlei: 1. Worin unterscheiden sich die verschiedenen Tiermilchen und die Frauenmilch voneinander? 2. Warum sind manche Milchen gesundheitsschädlich, und andere nicht? Mit diesen und ähnlichen Fragen waren sie aufs engste mit dem aufklärerischen Gesundheitsdiskurs verbunden. Zum einen stand das naturhistorische Projekt der Klassifikationen aller Arten im Fokus, zum anderen die zunehmende ideologische Überhöhung der Mutterliebe. Diese Verflechtung von Naturgeschichte, Chemie und Verbesserung des Menschen, die nach der Französischen Revolution in die moderne Public-Health-Bewegung einmündete, wird Gegenstand meines Vortrages sein.



## **Feminist interventions in the design process**

Els Rommes

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[http://www.ru.nl/genderstudies/igs/docenten\\_en/rommes\\_els/](http://www.ru.nl/genderstudies/igs/docenten_en/rommes_els/)

Vortrag am 30. November 2011

Lecture on November 30, 2011

In this presentation, I will first discuss what a feminist design of ICTs could look like. Is it enough to design products that include more women, or should feminist designs include efforts to provide for changes in gender relations? And what do we mean with interventions? In the second part of this talk I will present empirical work on the design of e.g. computer games, websites and mobile phones by eleven enterprises. First, I will analyse the motives these companies may have had for designing in a gender sensitive way. Then I will discuss how the companies actually took gender into account: through designing from stereotypes, with the (reflexive) I methodology or through participatory design. I will discuss the pros and cons of each of these methodologies and finalize with recommendations on which interventions might be effective.

# **Gender Research as Knowledge Resource in Technology and Engineering**

Lena Trojer

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Vortrag am 11. Januar 2012  
Lecture on January 11, 2012

When bringing forward discussions of gender, we tend to go into a practice of counting heads i.e. how many women are present in which functions, especially in sectors of technology and engineering. Seldom are gender issues seen as knowledge and technology generating. The presentation will illustrate what kind of value addition certain academic activities can have starting in gender related issues. Epistemological comments are presented on feminist technoscience as fostering and trying to advance our understanding of knowledge production in technology and engineering.