

# **‘That thing called science’**

## A short course in science studies

### Topics

**29 January 2010**

#### **I. Setting the scene: what is science and how is it regarded in society?**

- A short history of the ideas of what the human activity of science is. What makes it distinct from other human activity; how modern science has developed over time in the past 200 years.  
Speakers: prof. Floris Cohen, James McAllister, PhD (*subject to change*)

**19 February 2010**

#### **II. The life of a scientist**

- Career paths in modern science; its politics and how the credit and reward cycle works. From idealistic vocation to pragmatic profession. More personal view.  
Speakers: prof. René Medema, prof. Elsken van der Wall (*subject to change*)

**12 March 2010**

#### **III. The roots of modern science**

- The basis for our belief in its products; the scientific method; is it the specific virtue of the scientists or the social system in which scientists operate.  
Speakers: prof. Frank Huisman, prof. Bert Theunissen

**23 April 2010**

#### **IV. Playing the game of science**

- Playing the international game of science pro-actively steering your career in or out of science: choosing the right places, people and topics; networking and grantmanship; playing the Scientometrics game.  
Speakers: prof. Frank Miedema, prof. Ton van Raan (CWTS Leiden University) (*subject to change*)

**28 May 2010**

#### **V. The scientific entrepreneur**

- Science and business: a dangerous liaison. Intellectual property, patents, licensing; public-private partnerships.  
Speakers: prof. Jan van de Winkel, prof. Erik Hack

**18 June 2010**

**VI. Science meets and needs the press**

- Publish or perish versus; publish and perish; the scientist as communicator to her peers and to society  
Speakers tbi: Hans van Maanen, Floris de Hon (Elsevier Science)

**24 September 2010**

**VII. The ethics of science**

- Science ethics: The independence of science and scientists; managing conflict of interest; codes of conduct; non-economic targets of valorization of science; critical science as it once was.  
Speakers: prof. Ton Hol, prof. Hans van Delden

**22 October 2010**

**VIII. Hot issues**

- A spicy mixture of embarrassing or damaging situations in the world of (biomedical) science; when the public sees controlled trials as irresponsible experiments.  
Speakers: prof. Jan Kimpen, prof. Hein Gooszen.

**19 November 2010**

**VIX. Closing session**

- Prof. Steve Fuller (American philosopher-sociologist in the field of science and technology studies).