Grappling with the Futures Symposium Detailed Agenda

DAY 1 – SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2018 (HARVARD UNIVERSITY)

Keynotes Lectures
- Cynthia Selin, *Tempting futures* (STS)
- Peter Galison, *The buried past of the far future: Scenario thought in the Nuclear Age* (HIST)
- Roberto Poli, *Anticipation the philosophy of the future* (PHIL)

Session 1: Plausible Futures (PHILOSOPHY)
- Nele Fischer and Sascha Dannenberg, *Troping Futures. Applying philosophy of language to examine the prefiguration of continuity and disruption*
- Yashar Saghai, *How do we get from now to then? On the merits and limits of explanatory pluralism in future scenarios*
- Eric Kemp-Benedict, *A critical realist approach to scenario modeling practice*

Session 2: Global Histories of Futures Studies (HISTORY)
- Elke Seefried, *Cold War futures? Political epistemologies and flows of knowledge in transnational futures studies, 1950-1990*
- Joanna Radin, *How Cold War anthropology tried (and failed) to decolonize ‘Third World’ futures*
- Jenny Andersson, *Futures as global expertise*

Session 3: Anticipation and Visioning (INTERDISCIPLINARY)
- Luciano d’Andrea, *Anticipatory process and social research: going beyond a prescriptive and policy-oriented view of anticipation*
- Dirk Homrich and Paulina Dobroc, *Distorting mirrors of the present: Future visions as socio-epistemic practices*

Session 4: Health and Futures Studies (STS)
- Robin Wolfe Scheffler, *Managing the future: Planning cancer virus research at the National Cancer Institute*
- Karen Dam Nielsen and Mariane Boenink, *Critical reflections on “futuring” in responsible research and innovation: the case of Alzheimer’s research*
- Ari Schick, *Understanding the past and rethinking the future of anticipatory bioethics*
Session 5: Counterfactuals in History and Futures Studies (HISTORY)
- Quentin Deluermoz and Pierre Singaravélou, Counterfactuals: Historian’s approaches
- Mariana Todorova, Counterfacts as cliché breakers and seeds of the future
- David Staley, The future as a domain of historical inquiry

Session 6: Norms in Futures Studies (PHILOSOPHY)
- Erduana Shala, Values in futures research - which ones should we accept?
- Henk van den Belt, The anticipatory stance in Futures Studies and Responsible Innovation: Can we really get ahead of ourselves?

Session 7: Education Expertise, and Futures Studies (STS)
- Sandra Kemp, ‘Powerfully seductive forms of mass public entertainment and education’: Narratives of the future at scientific soirées
- Keri Facer, University futures before futures studies
- Stephen Wilson, Transpersonal futures: Artisthood in posthumous digital-life limiting conditions.

Session 8: History, Imaginaries and the Future (HISTORY)
- Sophia Roosth, The genesis of life in the Valley of Death
- William Deringer, The “social rate of discount” and the techno-politics of the future in postwar America
- Emanuelle Burton and Alec Nevala-Lee, Fictional futures: The past, present and future of future studies and science fiction

DAY 2 – MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2018 (BOSTON UNIVERSITY):

Session 9: Foresight in Practice (STS)
- Marjolein van Asselt, Susan van ‘t Klooster and Tessa Cramer, Foresight in action, professionals and their practices
- Mark Swilling, Edgar Pieterse and Maarten Hajer, Futuring, experimentation and transformative urban politics
- Sumin Myung, Is the world for the future forest? Forest sciences, long-term planning, and nested futures in South Korea
- Patrick van der Duin and Dhoya Snijders, How the Dutch shape their future: governmental think tanks and advisory think tanks at work in an increasingly uncertain world
Session 10: Technology, Philosophy and Futures Studies (PHILOSOPHY)
- Cor van der Weele, How do paths into the future emerge? The case of cultured meat
- Benjamin Aldes Wurgaft, Image and uncertainty in the cultured meat movement
- Wenceslao J. Gonzalez, The future of the internet: Prediction and prescription of applied Sciences in the context of complexity
- Jon Burmeister, The future of meaningful work: What will A.I.’s impact be?

Session 11: Histories of Futures Studies and the Corporate Sector (HISTORY)
- Susan Erikson, The “Ebola Bond” and the financialization of humanitarian aid
- Thomas J. Chermack, Pierre Wack’s contributions to scenario planning: Past, present and future
- Erik Baker, Privatizing the future: Neo-optimism, philanthrocapitalism, and the end of history
- Bretton Fosbrook, Conjuring corporate environments: Entanglements and translations in the methods of scenario planning in the 1960s and 1970s

Session 12: Infrastructure for the Future: Energy, Environment, Food (INTERDISCIPLINARY)
- Tanja Schneider, Enacting food futures: Sociotechnical imaginaries in food tech entrepreneurs’ TED talks
- Gregg Macey, Environmental legal futurism
- Kamilla Karhunmaa, Carbon neutrality and feasible futures in Finnish parliamentary and city council debates
- Jens Marquardt, Contested visions of the future: Germany’s energy transition between revolution and technocentrism

Final Plenary Session:
- Riel Miller, Transforming the future: Anticipation in the 21st century (INTERDISCIPLINARY)
- Open discussion with panel and Symposium participants about next steps.