

Social Sciences of Modelling: Exploring New Research Agendas

MODEL-POL WORKSHOP

IRI THESys, Friedrichstr. 191, Room 4088

Humboldt University, Berlin

October 24-25

Mathematical models have become an indispensable tool in most areas of policy-making. From climate change to public health, financial markets or humanitarian intervention, public policy options are shaped by the production, dissemination and interpretation of mathematical models. This workshop brings together social scientists researching modelling practices in the sciences and/or the use of mathematical models in policy domains. The purpose of the meeting is to share case studies from a variety of political and epistemic contexts, and to develop a shared analytical framework for studying the role of scientific models in policy-making and political debate. The meeting is sponsored by the Oxford-Berlin Research Partnership.



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Thursday 24/10	Programme
Noon – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 13:30	Welcome; Introductions
13:30 – 14:15	Helge Peters (University of Oxford) “This is a manager’s tool!” The co-production of modelling and policy-making in fisheries management.
14:15 – 15:00	Sara de Wit (University of Oxford) “Future Inc. – the in/visible lives of forecasting models for anticipating natural disasters.’
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee break
15:15 – 16:00	Taylor Spears (University of Edinburgh) ‘Representing Risk: How Bank Capital Regulators Use Models’
16:00 – 16:45	Jan-Peter Voss (Technische Universität Berlin) and Arno Simons (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) ‘Modelling policy instruments – co-producing epistemic and political authority.’
16:45 – 17:00	Close



Friday 25/10	Programme
9:00 – 09:30	Coffee
09:30 – 10:15	Javier Lezaun (University of Oxford) and Ann H. Kelly (King's College London) 'Mathematical Models and the (Un)Doability of Global Problems: The Case of Malaria Eradication.'
10:11 – 11:00	Sophie Haines (University of Edinburgh) 'The work of forecasts.'
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:00	Silke Beck (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ) 'Mind the gap: what responsibilities for climate science in the post-Paris era.'
12:00 – 12:45	Jörg Niewöhner (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and Stefan Schäfer (IASS Potsdam) 'Open modelling to understand coupled human-natural systems. A new politics of difference?'
12:45 – 13:45	Close & Next Steps



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