

Editor's Note and the List of Acknowledgment and Appreciation

Daiwie Fu

From the summer of 2006, when the First International Journal Conference of EASTS was held in Taipei, to the end of 2010, we have spent five long years preparing, editing, and publishing *East Asian Science, Technology and Society: An International Journal (EASTS)*. Nourished by the recent and continuing expansion in East Asian STS communities and activities, and also kindly supported by the larger traditions of international STS communities, our bold project, an international quarterly journal primarily based in Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea, has not only survived but has also been carrying on strongly. For the first publication period of three and a half years starting in September 2007, *EASTS* has published a total of fourteen issues, with the following ten subjects as special issues (including one double issue), plus three more issues containing only independent articles.

- Public Participation in Science and Technology (vol. 1, no. 1)
- Colonial Sciences in Former Japan's Imperial Universities (vol. 1, no. 2)
- The Hwang Scandal and Human Embryonic Stem-Cell Research (vol. 2, no. 1)
- Constructing Intimacy: Technology, Family, and Gender in East Asia (vol. 2, no. 2)
- Gender and Reproductive Technologies in East Asia (vol. 2, no. 3)
- The Globalization of Chinese Medicine and Meditation Practices (vol. 2, no. 4)
- Emergent Studies of Science and Technology in Southeast Asia (vol. 3, nos. 2 & 3)
- Biotechnology in East Asian Societies: Controversies and Governance (vol. 4, no. 1)
- Specialist Traditional Knowledge (vol. 4, no. 2)
- Engaging Science/Engaging Publics in Australia, New Zealand, and Japan (vol. 4, no. 4)

The ten main subjects of these eleven issues give us a rough idea of where our current *EASTS* was coming from and where it is heading. If I can also use the “preliminary report” by Ryuma Shineha and colleagues in vol. 4, no. 1—a report about the “STS issues” in the abstracts of articles published in *EASTS*—our main issues are colonial science, medical history, expert and local knowledge, the *EASTS* concept/topics, bio/medical science and feminism, and medicine and globalization. Interestingly enough, if we read through the main subject articles of this current issue, “The Challenging Relationship between Philosophy of Science and STS in East Asia,” we find that “philosophy” has not only played an important role in the development of international STS but has also played and is still playing a critical role in the emerging East Asian STS communities. This special role of philosophy is emphasized by our guest editor, Ruey-Lin Chen, in his introduction to the main subject of the present issue. However, the issue of how philosophy is related to STS is largely implicit and

tacitly embedded in the development of East Asian STS. As a former philosopher of science myself, I am glad to see philosophy listed as a primary topic in the biographies of STS and *EASTS*.

Thanks to the generally good responses and impressions, and the good download rates in Springerlink internationally, *EASTS* is firmly supported by Taiwan's National Science Council. One of our articles in vol. 3, no. 1 (2009), the essay by Wen-Hua Kuo, is to win the 2011 Edge Award from 4S. And beginning with the present issue, *EASTS* is changing publishers, moving from the megapublisher Springer to Duke University Press. Moreover, two prestigious STS scholars, Gregory Clancey and Michael Fischer, are together assuming the associate editorship of *EASTS* and responsibility for our OEA (Outside East Asia) section. We very much appreciated Warwick Anderson's help and work as the former OEA associate editor of *EASTS* over the previous fourteen issues, especially for his great guest editorship of the double issue "Emergent Studies of Science and Technology in Southeast Asia." There is also, of course, another former associate editor to thank: Chia-Ling Wu, my longtime *EASTS* associate since 2006, was the associate editor of *EASTS* (Taiwan section) for the first nine issues and has guest edited two *EASTS* issues: "Public Participation" (with Dung-Sheng Chen) and "Gender and Reproductive Technologies" (with Adele Clarke and Azumi Tsuge). Also, I much appreciate Pingyi Chu's great assistance in taking the responsibility of Taiwan's associate editorship after Chia-Ling stepped aside.

I also appreciate the work of two remarkable former *EASTS* book review coordinators: Wenyuan Lin and Wen-Hua Kuo. Through their efforts, *EASTS* has continued to publish important and interesting book reviews for the last fourteen issues. For our future book reviews, we are counting on Akihisa Setoguchi. And last but not least, *EASTS* might not have been established and would not have survived without the long, hard work of our three outstanding assistant editors, my coworkers for the past fourteen issues: E-Ling Chiu, Hsiao-Chun Wu, and Shiau-Yun Chen.

I want to emphasize that as *EASTS* changes publishers, all of the journal's structural and procedural elements will either remain basically the same or will improve. And for our respectable readers, we hope that *EASTS* will become a better quarterly, more mature and more friendly. *EASTS* also aspires to become a better forum of STS research communication and ideas exchange not only for East Asian scholars and intellectuals, but also for people in other geographical areas.

Finally and perhaps most important, for the academic, intellectual, and East Asian qualities of the journal's previous four volumes, we have relied on many anonymous reviewers or referees. *EASTS* is so very grateful to them for sharing their expertise, experience, and time with our authors, and as we switch publishers and begin volume 5, we want to thank all of them by name, except for a small group of reviewers who prefer to remain anonymous. We hereby follow the academic convention of presenting an alphabetical list acknowledging all of the reviewers who refereed the manuscripts sent to us for the past four volumes (fourteen issues) from 2007 to the end of 2010.

—Daiwie Fu

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