

An Asia Pacific Science Technology and Society Conference  
to be held at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, **9–10 February 2012**

## **Policy for Science and Science for Policy**

### **Constructing National Wellbeing through Science and Innovation**

*What is the relationship between science and policy decision-making?  
How do nations make decisions to invest in science and technology – and how are citizens involved?*

**The aim of this conference is to showcase the latest international thinking in the field of Science Policy Studies (SPS) and the emerging SPS scholarship in the Asia Pacific region**

If you are concerned about the future of science and technology, and if you have ideas about how science policy systems work best, you should be part of this event. Register your interest now to join a unique and stimulating discussion between science policy researchers, government officials, industry and professional associations, along with scientists from a broad range of disciplines, Māori scientists and indigenous knowledge holders.

‘Science Policy Studies’ is a field of social research which inquires into the way science policy is developed and implemented, and how scientific knowledge is used in the policy process. It offers new understandings of and approaches to the governance of science, technology and innovation, and connects academia, government policy-making, and industrial strategy. With the growing impact of science and technology on both the global economy and national economic goals, research on science policy processes is increasingly important. SPS scholarship is well developed in North America and Europe but has had less attention in New Zealand and the Asia Pacific region. SPS offers insights into how science-policy systems operate, and this in turn can support improvements in system design. SPS also stands back from day-to-day operations to critically reflect on the objectives and outcomes of science policy in the context of the wider relationship between science and society. This conference will address two themes, each with a set of opening questions:

**Policy for Science:** *How is science policy developed? How has the science system evolved over time and what are the key issues facing it today? How are scientists, industry and society engaged in the development of science policy? How is science linked with innovation and sustainability? What new forms of knowledge are emerging in the early 21st century and how are these being addressed inside the science system?*

**Science for Policy:** *How is scientific knowledge used in decision-making in government and industry? How can science address future challenges in economic development, social wellbeing, and climate change? What role should scientists have in the policy process? What forms of knowledge are needed? What is the role of indigenous knowledge? What are the opportunities and limits of ‘evidence-based’ policy?*

The programme will feature international and regional keynote speakers and academic papers, and will have practical discussions, with dialogue sessions and networking opportunities. Proceedings will be published in special issues of the *Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand* and *New Zealand Science Review*. Funding support for early career and indigenous SPS researchers is available. A prize for the best student paper will be awarded.

**To register your interest, email our administrator: [marilyn.pierson@esr.cri.nz](mailto:marilyn.pierson@esr.cri.nz)**

Organised by the New Zealand Association of Scientists, Environmental Science and Research Ltd, Landcare Research Ltd, and the Victoria University School of Government



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