

## Call for Papers

**Special track at the 20th conference of the Society for Philosophy and Technology  
June 14-17, 2017 – Darmstadt, Germany**

### **Technology Translations: Philosophical Interactions across Disciplines and Application Domains**

Track Chair: Albrecht Fritzsche (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)

Philosophical questions regarding technology are not only addressed by philosophers of technology, but also many other researchers and practitioners, including engineers, architects, designers or managers. Interdisciplinary formats like the forum on Philosophy, Engineering and Technology (fPET) support the exchange between these groups. This special track is dedicated to the community of scholars from all disciplines who engage in such exchanges. The word translation is used to highlight the specific effort necessary to find a common ground for a wider philosophical discourse on technology, during which existing concepts and ideas are not only mapped to new application domains, but also adapted and transformed in order to make them understandable to others.

In accordance with the conference theme “the grammar of things”, we are interested in the specific ways how the various disciplines express themselves in their philosophical treatments of technology and how such expressions are related to one another. We are looking for papers which study the treatment of technology in management, engineering and other disciplines or application domains from a philosophical perspective as well as papers which reflect philosophical work on technology from the perspective of another discipline. In particular, we are interested in grammatical differences that surface during the exchange across disciplines or application domains and the ways how they are treated. Following the view of most modern translation theories, we do not expect that there is an ultimate resolution for such differences. This, of course, makes it even more interesting to find out how they can coexist.

Due to its interdisciplinary nature, this special track is open for a wide range of submissions. The following list gives an overview of the topics that might be addressed:

- What philosophical questions regarding technology arise in the practice of engineering and other applied disciplines?
- How can conflicts between the perspectives of designers, producers, distributors, users and observers of technology be resolved – if they can?
- What can philosophy say about interactions between different professions concerned with technology, their instrumental repertoire, their ethics, and their culture?
- How are philosophical questions regarding technology perceived from the perspective of experts in other disciplines and what conclusions can be drawn from it?
- Which kind of orientation or guidance can the philosophy of technology provide for researchers or practitioners in different application domains?
- How can insights and experiences from other disciplines be made useful for philosophy and add to the formation of a wider body of knowledge?

Philosophers, but also all other qualified experts concerned with technology are cordially invited to submit their contributions. We expect all papers to have a sound theoretical basis and follow academic standards. New points of view and controversial positions are very welcome.

350-word abstracts for individual papers should be submitted by Dec 5 at <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=spt2017>. Please make sure to submit to the special track “Technology Translations”. If you have any further questions about this track, please contact the track chair at the following e-mail address: [albrecht.fritzsche@fau.de](mailto:albrecht.fritzsche@fau.de). For all further information about the SPT conference, see also: [www.philosophie.tu-darmstadt.de/spt2017](http://www.philosophie.tu-darmstadt.de/spt2017).

### **Timeline**

- December 5<sup>th</sup> 2016: Deadline for the submission of abstracts
- March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017: Expected notification of acceptance
- June 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2017: Conference dates