

Three years after the release of its first issue, *Tecnoscienza* looks at itself in the mirror, and starts a new three-year cycle with some notable accomplishments and a few novelties.

In recent years the journal has gained great visibility at both national and international level (it currently has about 1,500 registered users and an average of 750 downloads upon the release of each new issue), establishing itself as the only Italian academic journal specifically devoted to social studies of science and technology, as well as one of the only one coming from a southern European country. At a national level, this achievement has also been symbolically acknowledged by the awarding of *Premio Filosofico Castiglioncello*, a prize awarded last year to *Tecnoscienza* as the “best online academic journal in 2012”.

The Journal has also strengthened and consolidated its position in the international debate, thanks to the publication of original materials in English and its ability to carve out for itself an increasingly central role in the international academic community (see for example the special issue dedicated to the 2010 EASST conference: <http://www.tecnoscienza.net/index.php/tsj/issue/view/18>). The reputation of *Tecnoscienza* has also been enhanced by the contributions included in the Cartography section, which have so far focused on the STS debate in several European countries (i.e. Spain, Germany, Norway and Croatia) and the review section, which includes in-depth analyses (in English) of STS books written in other languages.

In the perspective of a more incisive positioning of the Journal both nationally and internationally, we have implemented various actions in preparation for the next three years, aimed at enhancing *Tecnoscienza*'s institutional recognition and reputation. We have recently participated in the processes of accreditation and evaluation promoted by Italian academic and scientific institutions, having been included by the National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research (ANVUR) in the list of scientific journals. Moreover, *Tecnoscienza* has also been selected by the Italian Association of Sociology as a candidate journal to be listed among the A-class publications recognized by ANVUR. Finally, we sub-

mitted the Journal to the attention of leading international databases for assessment and indexing purposes.

To further position itself as a benchmark in the national and international debate, in the next three years *Tecnoscienza* will annually dedicate a special monographic issue to an emerging topic in contemporary STS. This is the first of these special issues and on the Journal's website it is already possible to find the call for papers for the one scheduled for 2014 ("From Bench to Bed and Back: Laboratories and Biomedical Research", edited by Federico Neresini and Assunta Viteritti). We look forward to receiving your contributions, whether you wish to propose specific themes for an upcoming special issue or you would like to send your contribution as an open submission.

Another novelty of this issue is that it also inaugurates a new Board Coordination and, above all, sees the expansion of the Editorial Board itself. This expansion has not only to do with the number of members, but also with the Journal's geographical grounding. Some of the new members of the Editorial Board actually carry out their research activities outside of Italy and will therefore contribute to maintaining *Tecnoscienza* as even more anchored to a variety of international debates and networks.

One last innovation, albeit perhaps the most evident to our readers, concerns the change of format and graphics. Abandoning the traditional magazine layout, *Tecnoscienza* is now characterised by a new format, in some ways more attuned with academic publishing and also (hopefully) easier to handle. As widely known in STS, changing infrastructures may pose unexpected problems, which require a surplus of work. So it was in our case, but the result pleases us. We hope it is the same for you.

Enjoy the reading.

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