
References

- Anderson, A. (1991) *Source Strategies and the Communication of Environmental Affairs*, in “Media, Culture and Society”, 13 (4), pp. 459-476.
- Anderson, A., and Gaber, I. (1993) *The Yellowing of the Greens*, in “British Journalism Review”, 4 (2), pp. 49-53.
- Anderson, A. (2000) *Environmental Pressure Politics and the “Risk Society”*, in S. Allan, B. Adam, and C. Carter (2000), *Environmental Risks and the Media*, London, Routledge pp. 93-104.
- Anderson, A. (2002) *The Media Politics of Oil Spills*, in “Spill Science and Technology Bulletin”, 7 (1), pp. 7-15.
- Anderson, A., and Marhadour, A. (2007) *Slick PR? The Media Politics of the Prestige Oil Spill*, in “Science Communication”, 29 (1), pp. 96-115.
- Anderson, A., Petersen, A., Wilkinson, C., and Allan, S. (2009) *Nanotechnology, Risk and Communication*, Houndmills, Palgrave Macmillan.
- Brunton, F., and Coleman, G. (2014) *Closer to the Metal*, in T., Gillespie, P. J., Boczkowski and K.A. Foot (eds.), *Media Technologies: Essays on Communication, Materiality, and Society*, Cambridge MA and London UK, MIT Press.
- Castells, M. (2009) *Communication Power*, Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- Cottle, S. (1998) *Ulrich Beck, “Risk Society” and the Media: A Catastrophic View?*, in “European Journal of Communication”, 13 (1), pp. 5-32.
- Gillespie, T., Boczkowski, P.J., and Foot, K. A. (eds.) (2014) *Media Technologies: Essays on Communication, Materiality, and Society*, Cambridge MA and London UK, MIT Press.
- Parks, L., and Starosielski, N. (eds.) (2015) *Signal Traffic: Critical Studies of Media Infrastructures*, Champaign, University of Illinois Press.

* * *

**Antonio Arellano, Michelle Chauvet, and Ronny Viales
(eds.)**

Redes y estilos de investigación: ciencia, tecnología, innovación y sociedad en México y Costa Rica [Networks and investigation styles: science, technology, innovation and society in Mexico and Costa Rica], Ciudad de Mexico, Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México, 2013, pp. 306

Miquel Domènech *Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*

Redes y estilos de investigación: ciencia, tecnología, innovación y sociedad en México y Costa Rica has to be understood as the fruit of a collaborative experience in the Red de Estudios Sociales de la Ciencia y la Tecnología (RESOCTI). This is a research network shaped by three very active research groups from Latin America. Two of them are from Mexico: Cuerpo Académico Sociedad y Biotecnología, at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana Azcapotzalco (UAM-A), and Cuerpo Académico Sociología de la Tecnociencia, at the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México (UAEMex). The third one is from Costa Rica: Programa de Estudios Sociales de la Ciencia, la Técnica y el Medio Ambiente, at the Universidad de Costa Rica.

The book is structured in three parts. The first section “Construcción tecnológica: agrobiotecnología y ofidismo” presents four case studies regarding biotechnological innovations in Latin America. In spite of all being devoted to similar questions, at least in the first three cases – focused on genetically modified organisms – the reader would not have the impression of dealing with repetitive arguments. Indeed, these three-mentioned works emphasize different aspects of this polemic topic, offering to the reader a wide range of aspects to be considered. Thus, the analyzed issues go from the importance of social participation in biotechnological debates to the role of scientific institutions in the commercialization of transgenic seeds. What they have in common is a constructivist approach, even if the reader will appreciate again differences between them. The fourth case study approaches a completely different subject: the development of ophidism in Costa Rica. The link with the rest of the papers has to do with the use of the Social Network Analysis as the basis of their explanation. This methodology has a transversal presence over the book and, actually, constitutes one of the unifying components of the edition. The second section “Análisis de redes sociotécnicas” is a powerful exercise of Social Network Analysis focused on three new cases entailing GMO controversies. Still, where the emphasis is placed differs from one another and the analyses carried out allow the reader to grasp an idea of different uses and potentialities of Social Network Analysis. Finally, the third and last section “Enfoques ESCTI de los cuerpos académicos” traces the trajectories of both Mexican partners of the research network above mentioned. Crucially, this is quite useful in order to understand the very origin of the book.

It is difficult to offer a general overview of the book, mainly because it is an edited book with different and singular contributions. Besides, the content is quite uneven and the deepness of the analyses or the very quality of the writing style varies substantially depending on the chapter. Nevertheless, it has certainly great value as an example of the vitality of research in the field of Science and Technology Studies from Latin America.

Without doubt, some of its contributions merit to be outlined. Let me mention which are, from my point of view, the most relevant ones. First, the book is an interesting and consequent application of the Social Net-

work Analysis to Science and Technology Studies. By itself, it delivers a set of case studies that will certainly be very inspiring for those interested in this methodology and its potentiality in the study of topics such as the evolution of research lines in research groups or the analysis of co-authorships as an indicator of the internationalization practices of institutions. Second, as a whole, the book offers a very complete outlook of the history and current debates regarding transgenic crops in Latin America, although specially focused on Mexico. Sometimes the reader might have the impression that authors are undertaking a descriptive task rather than an analytical one, but, in any case, it works as a conceptual map to situate relevant actors and to identify significant issues, i.e. the global food crisis, linked with the development of GMO. Finally, in its theoretical dimension, it is true that it cannot be said that there is a clear commitment with a particular theoretical option, but it is also true that Actor-Network Theory appears as a quite significant element in several chapters. In this sense, the book constitutes another example of the influence of this approach in Latin America, becoming a popular toolkit for social analysis.

* * *

M. Audétat (ed.)

Sciences et technologies émergentes: pourquoi tant de promesses?
[*Emerging Sciences and Technologies: Why so many promises?*], Paris, Hermann, 2015, pp. 316.

Attila Bruni *Università di Trento*

Expectations are important. When we are faced with a person or a situation (whether known or unknown), what we expect is somehow constitutive of the relationship that we are about to establish with that person or situation. One may cite various works by Goffman in this regard, but I expect that those reading this review will find the previous sentence so obvious that it requires no further specification. This makes it possible to immediately point out another feature of expectations: that they reduce complexity and facilitate communication and representation. In both sociology and social psychology, “expectation” is commonly defined as the individual’s reasonably realistic prediction about the behaviour of other members of society in a context of uncertainty. The more knowledge actors possess about social dynamics, the more they will be able to have solid and reliable expectations. The main problem therefore arises when expectations are not fulfilled.

If we move from the individual and everyday level to that of science, we realize that expectations are nothing more than assumptions that