Workshop on

East Asian Studies and Science & Technology Studies: Towards Productive Cross-fertilization

Yenching Common Room 2 Divinity Avenue Harvard University Cambridge, MA

Friday, April 24, 2009

(Sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute, the Department of the History of Science, and the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations)

Despite the promising futures of East Asian Studies and Science and Technology Studies as interdisciplinary research fields, a systematic effort to encourage interaction between the two fields has yet to take place. This is rather surprising given that the rapid advances in scientific and technological innovation—and in other knowledge-related activities—have been repeatedly invoked as some of the most distinctive features of the "East Asian development model." In this workshop, we aim to bring together scholars from both EAS and STS, from within and outside Harvard, to explore and discuss what each field can fruitfully learn from the concepts, theoretical perspectives, and empirical findings of the other. We hope that the workshop will serve as a useful platform for further exchange and dialogue between EAS and STS. We also hope that this event will help to enrich the training of undergraduate and graduate students in both fields.

Program

12:00 – 12:30 Reception

12:30 – 12:50 Opening Remarks

Anne Harrington (Professor of History of Science, Chair of the Department of the History of Science, Harvard)

Ruohong Li (Assistant Director for Programs & Planning, Harvard-Yenching Institute)

Session 1: What Can Science & Technology Studies Learn from East Asian Studies?

12:50 - 14:50

Chair: William C. Kirby (Spangler Family Professor of Business Administration, Harvard

Business School; T. M. Chang Professor of China Studies, Harvard)

Presentation: Fa-ti Fan (Associate Professor, Dept. of History, SUNY-Binghamton)

Comment 1: Sang-Wook Yi (Associate Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, Hanyang University,

Korea; Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute)

Comment 2: David Kaiser (Associate Professor, Program in Science, Technology and Society;

Lecturer, Dept. of Physics, MIT)

14:50 – 15:10 Break

Session 2: What Can East Asian Studies Learn from Science & Technology Studies?

15:10 - 17:10

Chair: Fengshi Wu (Assistant Professor, Department of Government and Public

Administration, Chinese University of Hong Kong; Visiting Scholar, Harvard-

Yenching Institute)

Presentation: Robert Oppenheim (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Asian Studies, University of

Texas-Austin; Associate in Research, Korea Institute, Harvard)

Comment 1: Ian Jared Miller (Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, Harvard)

Comment 2: Todd A. Henry (Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, Colorado State University;

Korea Institute Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard)

17:10 - 17:25 Break

17:25 – 18:00 Wrap-up Discussion