2023 4S Infrastructure Award Nomination
of Professor Sheila Jasanoff and the STS Program at Harvard

APPENDIX 1: A one-year snapshot of infrastructure building

We offer an overview of the convenings hosted by the Harvard STS Program in the last 12 months alone. This one-year snapshot illustrates how the Program (all of whose elements were designed by Jasanoff or established with her support) serves as a crucial infrastructural hub for the STS field. Without compromising its disciplinary commitment to STS, it consistently welcomes interdisciplinary, intergenerational, and international dialogue on science, technology and society, and it offers a forum for addressing issues of great and immediate public significance.

The STS Circle seminars hosted 22 speakers, featuring prominent scholars as well as PhD students from STS and adjacent fields[1]. This weekly colloquium has been running since Fall 2006 (live-streamed since the pandemic for viewers who cannot attend in person). Operating with minimal funds, it nevertheless offers wide exposure to junior scholars from various departments at Harvard (in the humanities, social, natural, and engineering sciences) and from universities in the Greater Boston area (MIT, Boston University, Tufts, and Northeastern) who are working on exciting topics that intersect with STS at the edges of their home disciplines. Some members of the local public routinely attend this weekly seminar. The mix of junior and senior scholars, and the inclusion of visitors and speakers from other universities, are hallmarks of Jasanoff's pedagogical commitment to connecting scholarship across generations and democratizing the Harvard STS Program.

The Science and Democracy Lecture series, held each semester, hosted Bill de Blasio, former Mayor of New York City ("AI for Cities or Cities for AI: Who Should Decide?", March 28, 2023) and Sherry Turkle from MIT ("Artificial Intimacy: What Are People For?", November 30, 2023), with cross-disciplinary commentary from prominent scholars and approximately 200 attendees for each event[2].

In Spring 2023, the STS Program hosted a **workshop on Science and Technology in East Asia** (February)[3] and a day-long **conference on Regulatory Challenges in Technological Societies-Dialogues between the United States and Brazil** (April)[4]. The latter brought together speakers from academia and regulatory agencies and featured a closing keynote by Brazil Supreme Court Justice Luís Roberto Barroso. Both events were spearheaded by Fellows of the STS Program with Jasanoff's extensive support (logistics, guest list, a talk, hospitality). A spinoff event featuring some of the same guests was hosted in December in Rio de Janeiro, testifying to the Harvard Program's cross-national influence.

The end of the summer featured the 4th **STS Summer School @ Harvard** on Expertise, Trust and Democracy[5] — training 25 students from 14 countries with 20 faculty guests — followed by

[1] http://sts.hks.harvard.edu/events/sts_circle
[2] https://sts.hks.harvard.edu/events/lectures/bill-de-blasio; https://sts.hks.harvard.edu/events/lectures/sherry-turkle
[3] https://sts.hks.harvard.edu/events/workshops/science-and-technology-in-east-asia
[4] https://sts.hks.harvard.edu/events/workshops/regulatory-challenges-in-technological-societies-dialogues-between-the-united-states-and-brazil
[5] https://stsprogram.org/summerschool

the 22nd **Science and Democracy Network** annual meeting with 3 days and 7 sessions of paper presentations from junior and senior scholars[6].

In September, a Harvard STS PhD student co-organized a workshop on **Just Computation? Social and Historical Perspectives on Calculation in the Law**. The STS Program provided logistical support for a two-day event featuring 15 papers by scholars from the US, Europe, and Canada[7].

In October, PhD students in the STS Program at Harvard, now 7 in number, coordinated the 4th annual **Graduate Research in STS conference** (GRiSTS). Under Jasanoff's guidance and with her encouragement and participation, this student-run conference has become a hub for PhD students in STS and related disciplines in the American Northeast and beyond[8]. This year's conference welcomed 20 student presenters and 9 faculty moderators and speakers.

The Global Observatory for Genome Editing convened two significant cross-sectoral events in early 2023 and a third later in the year. **In Search of Limits in the Age of Genome Editing: Human Integrity at the Frontiers of Engineering Life** at the University of California, San Diego in February brought together scientists and scholars from various fields, including disability studies, bioethics, and journalism[9]. **Toward Inclusion: Genome Editing and Social Justice** was held in London, UK in March to complement discussions at the concurrent Third International Summit on Genome Editing by enriching the conversation about biotechnology policy and the human future at stake with new biomedical advances like the use of CRISPR-Cas9[10]. At full capacity, the Observatory event had over 60 attendees, including prominent scholars from STS and distinguished officials in positions of leadership from various European institutions. A smaller workshop on **Limits of Genetic Manipulation,** exploring scientists' ethical intuitions concerning limits on biotechnological research, brought together scientists, bioethicists, and STS scholars from the Boston area and beyond in December.

At the end of November, the STS Program hosted a **Conference on AI and Democracy**, gathering actors from academia, government, and civil society in the United States and beyond[11]. With over 500 registrants and attendees ranging from Harvard affiliates and government officials to AI industry players and local community members, the conference offered yet another striking example of this small Program's convening power to bring scientists, policymakers, and activists into direct dialogue with STS scholars and ideas — and each other. Numerous spinoffs, such as a public statement on AI governance principles, are in the works.

[6] https://stsprogram.org/sdn/annual-meeting-2023
[7] https://justcomputation.wordpress.com
[8] https://gristsconference.wordpress.com
[9] https://global-observatory.org/node/1096
[10] https://global-observatory.org/node/1099
[11] http://sts.hks.harvard.edu/ai