

Societal Impact of Science

The international conference on inclusive approaches, policies, strategies and methods to advance and monitor societal impact of scientific knowledge and data (including SSHA)

In collaboration with:

SSHRC  CRSH



RESEARCH
IMPACT
CANADA | Turning
research
into action



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY



by
AESIS

19 - 21 June 2023
Halifax, Canada

Background

The need for science to tackle challenges our world faces is not a new phenomenon, but has increasingly grown on a global scale, with the world facing pandemics, environmental changes and societal struggles. Policymakers, businesses and other societal actors are increasingly aware of the value of scientific data and knowledge to support them in overcoming challenges, but in many cases the interaction between worlds is not structured or stable enough. For the 11th time in a row AESIS will be organising their annual conference on Societal Impact of Science, to bring together stakeholders in- and outside of the science eco-system to engage with each other on the most effective approaches for implementing policies, strategies, methods and tools to optimise societal impact of science and evaluate success.

In 2023 the international conference will be hosted in Halifax, Canada. This conference will feature highly regarded and internationally recognised experts who will be discussing the contribution of research to the quality of life and well-being. The conference expects over 250 participants from more than 30 countries, bringing together experts such as R&D evaluators, university managers, research councils, policy makers, funders, and other stakeholders of impact. The goal is sharing, evaluating, and discussing best practices around the world on: policy strategies for societal impact, creating (long-term) alliances between stakeholders; regional, national, and international instruments for evaluating and achieving impact; current issues on i.e. public engagement, evidence-based policy, interdisciplinary approaches, and harmonising definitions and assumptions. We are very excited to be working with our colleagues in Canada and elsewhere in the world to create the most valuable programme and experience for all of you who would like to learn about and contribute to science transforming the world.

Main themes



Monitoring and assessing
societal impact of science



Most prominent obstacles to
improving societal impact of science



Collaboration between science
and society for greater impact



Transforming policies and
strategies for impact



Building stronger structures for
knowledge exchange and collaboration

About AESIS

The Network for Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science (AESIS) is an international, open community for professionals working on stimulating and demonstrating the impact of science on economy, culture and well-being. Members come from all over the world, where they are involved in the evaluation of impact, research strategy and policy making, science funding, scientometrics, research administration, business creation, public engagement, and many more. We pursue a multi-stakeholder, system-wide approach on an international level, because we believe that stimulating dialogue between different sectors and regions, beyond the project level, will catalyse further development of effective instruments for evaluating and advancing the societal impact of science.

Advisory & Association

AESIS Advisory Board

Koenraad Debackere	Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chairman of Board of Directors of KBC Group NV, Belgium
Genevieve Simpson	Director, Planning and Development, National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa
Luke Georghiou	Vice-President for Research and Innovation and Professor of Science and Technology Policy at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom
Barend van der Meulen	Professor Institutional Aspects of (Higher) Education, Director CHEPS, Twente University, Netherlands
Andrew Plume	Senior Director of Research Evaluation at Elsevier, United Kingdom
Susan Renoe	Associate Vice Chancellor, University of Missouri & Executive Director of the NSF Center for Advancing Research Impact in Society, United States
Toby Smith	Vice President of Policy at the American Association of Universities, United States of America
David Sweeney	Executive Chair, Research England, United Kingdom
Paul Wouters	Dean of Social and Behavioural Sciences & former Director of CWTS, Leiden University, Netherlands

Conference Programme Advisory Committee

Alice Aiken	Vice President, Research and Innovation, Dalhousie University, Canada
Mathew Lucas	Executive Director, Corporate Strategy & Performance, SSHRC, Canada
Susan Morris	Director, Evaluation, NSERC-CRSNG, Canada
Rhonda Kropp	Acting Vice-President Research - Learning Health Systems, CIHR/IRSC, Canada
David Phipps	Executive Director, Research & Innovation Services, Division of Vice-President Research & Innovation, York University, Canada
Kathryn Graham	Executive Director of Performance Management and Evaluation, Alberta Innovates, Canada
Edward Nason	Director, Strategic Impact and Evaluation, Genome Canada, Canada
Jason Mathis	Regional Solutions Sales Manager, Western US & Canada, Elsevier, United States
Kate Geddie	Sr. Director, Research, CIFAR, Canada
Stephane Mercure	Senior Evaluation Officer, CFI, Canada
Kristin Corbett	Senior Strategic Knowledge Translation Officer, IDRC, Canada
Kamilla Karoli	Vice President, Business Operations, Work Wellness Institute, Canada

Monday, June 19th

9.00-9.30 WALK IN & REGISTRATION

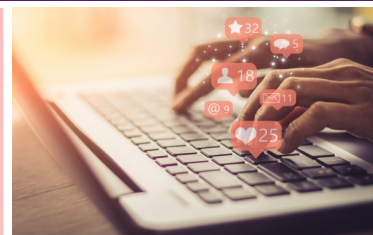


You are welcomed at the entrance and coffee and tea are served

- Dalhousie University -

The conference app is available and the helpdesk is open for any technical issues or support

- Online platform -



9.30-9.50 WORDS OF WELCOME (*LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT*)

9.30

Conference chairs:

Barbara Hamilton-Hinch

Associate Professor and Assistant Vice Provost Equity & Inclusion, Dalhousie University, Canada

Chair 2*

9.50-11.15 TRANSFORMATIVE POLICIES TO STIMULATE AND ASSESS THE IMPACT OF SCIENCE (INCLUDING SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES, AND ARTS) ON SOCIETY

9.50

Debbie Martin*

Professor, Dalhousie University, Canada

Topic: Decolonizing research funding

10.05

Karina Batthyány*

Executive Secretary, CLACSO, Uruguay

Topic: DORA approach

10.20

Steven Hill*

Director of Research, Research England, United Kingdom

Topic: REF analysis

10.35

Arthur Ellis

Senior Advisor, Elsevier, United States

Topic: Measuring Impact

10.50

Panel discussion

11.15-11.45 COFFEE & TEA BREAK



- Day 1 programme continues on the next page -

* to be confirmed

Monday, June 19th

11.45-13.00 PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Balancing all aspects of the rewarding system

Societal impact actions being incentivised through funding, promotion and tenure, and further.

Yuko Harayama
Executive Director, RIKEN, Japan

Including indigenous expectations in impact-ambitions

Topic description

Debbie Martin (Chair)*
Professor, Dalhousie University, Canada

Ross Laurence
Strategic Support Leader, Landcare Research, New Zealand

IDRC Representative*

Impact-methods to support challenge driven research-funding

Topic description

IDRC Representative*
Genome Canada Representative*

Ole Henning Sørensen
Chief Consultant, NFA, Denmark

Nico van Meeteren*
Executive Director, Topsector Life Sciences and Health, Netherlands

Aligning regional, national and international impact expectations and policies

Topic description

Stefan Leslie
CEO, Research Nova Scotia, Canada

Caroline Nevejan*
Chief Science Officer, City of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Training science and society to engage

Creating a social contract between researchers, supporting staff, policymakers and societal actors to strengthen connections.

Rhonda Moore
Executive Director, Science & Innovation, Institute of Governance, Canada

Benedikt Fecher*
Program Director, Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society, Germany

Workshop: Practical strategies for measuring impact

Topic description

Chris James
Senior Product Manager, SciVal, United Kingdom

David Campbell
Chief Scientist, Research Analytics & Data Services, Science-Metric Inc, Canada

13.00-14.00 LUNCH BREAK + GOOD PRACTICES OF SOCIETAL IMPACT STORIES

14.00-15.30 INTERACTIVE PANEL

After short presentations of our panelists they will pitch their most prominent questions after which the debate will start and the audience can vote between the posed questions or statements that the panelists brought forward. The top 3 will be debated by the panel members.

Malinda Smith* Vice Provost, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, University of Calgary, Canada

Koenraad Debackere* Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chairman of Board of Directors of KBC Group NV, Belgium

Toby Smith* Vice President of Policy at the American Association of Universities, United States

15.30-16.00 REFRESHMENT BREAK

16.00-17.30 SOCIAL PROGRAMME

18.00-20.30 CONFERENCE DINNER (Pre-registration required)

* to be confirmed

9.00-9.30

WALK IN & REGISTRATION

9.30-9.40

WORDS OF WELCOME

9.30

Conference chairs:

Barbara Hamilton-Hinch

Associate Professor and Assistant Vice Provost Equity & Inclusion, Dalhousie University, Canada

Chair 2*

9.40-10.35

IMPROVING (INTER)NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURES AND STRATEGIES TO COLLECTIVELY TACKLE BROADER CHALLENGES SUCH AS THE SDG'S

9.40

Candice Loring

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Relations & Initiatives, Canada

Topic: Community engagement with marginalised groups

9.55

Ernest Aryeetey

Secretary-General, African Research Universities Alliance, Ghana

Topic: International collaboration structures

10.10

Britta Fiander

Director, Innovation Programs, Genome Atlantic, Canada

Topic: Regional collaboration structures between science, government, industry and community

10.25

Panel discussion

10.50-11.20

TEA & COFFEE BREAK

11.20-12.35

PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Integrating Societal Impact in an Institutional Strategy

Topic description

Genome Canada Representative*

Evidence Informed policy making

Topic description

Rémi Quirion

President, INGSA, Canada

Euan Adie

CEO, Overton, United Kingdom

Research Security and Ethics

Topic description

Marlies Rise

Assistant VP, Research Services, Dalhousie University, Canada

Monitoring Societal Impact to Inform Institutional Strategy

Topic description

Angela McGuire

Collaboration Manager, Research Evaluation, Elsevier, Netherlands

Rachel Herbert

Senior Research Evaluation Manager, Elsevier, United Kingdom

Ole Henning Sørensen

Chief Consultant, NFA, Denmark

From EDI to inclusive societal impact

Topic description

Malinda Smith*

Vice Provost, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, University of Calgary, Canada

Workshop: Impact through business and entrepreneurship for all disciplines

Topic description

Irene Dal Poz

Training Manager, Oxentia Ltd, United Kingdom

Hamish McAlpine

Principal Consultant, Oxentia Ltd, United Kingdom

Tuesday, June 20th

12.35-13.35 LUNCH BREAK + GOOD PRACTICES OF SOCIETAL IMPACT STORIES

13.35-14.35 ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS (max. 20 participants per session, pre-registration required)
Sessions will culminate in a collaborative statement to be published after the conference.

Explaining and advocating the role of societal impact for fundamental science

Topic description

NRC Representative*

Open Science, Knowledge Transfer and Societal Impact

The rules around when scientific information needs to be released is changing – what does it mean?

Michael Vanderberg

Dean of Libraries, Dalhousie University, Canada

The role of Canada in the international science eco-system

Topic description

Kathryn Graham

Executive Director, Impact Action Lab, Alberta Innovates, Canada

David Phipps

Assistant Vice President Research Strategy & Impact, York University, Canada

Edward Nason

Director, Strategic Impact and Evaluation, Genome Canada, Canada

Fighting misinformation and increasing trust in science

Topic description

Anita DeWaard

VP, Research Collaborations, Elsevier, United States

CFI Representative*

Documentary viewing: lessons on impact

TBD

14.35-15.05 TEA & COFFEE BREAK

15.05-16.05 AESIS FAMILY FEUD & IMPACT DEBATE

In this fun but insightful “family-feud” style plenary session, two teams will compete to answer questions about the societal impact of social sciences, humanities, and arts, with the winning team earning time between each round to debate and elaborate on these challenges within their own experiences.

Hosts Anika Duut van Goor, Oliver Cox

Team #1 Alice Aiken, David Sweeney*

Team #2 David Phipps, Paul Wouters*, Sandra Lapointe

16.05-16.30 REFRESHMENT BREAK

16.30-17.30 SOCIAL PROGRAMME

18.00-20.30 CONFERENCE DINNER (Pre-registration required)

* to be confirmed

9.00-9.30 WALK IN & REGISTRATION

9.30-9.40 WORDS OF WELCOME

9.30 Conference chairs:

Barbara Hamilton-Hinch Associate Professor and Assistant Vice Provost Equity & Inclusion, Dalhousie University

Chair 2*

9.40-11.15 PLENARY OPENING

9.40 NSERC
representative*

Topic: tbd

9.55 **Arthur Lupia*** Gerald R Ford Distinguished Professor, University of Michigan, United States

Topic: tbd

10.10 **David Budtz Pedersen** Professor of Science Communication, Aalborg University, Denmark

*Topic: Communicating Impact**

10.25 **Genevieve Simpson*** Director, Planning & Development, National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa

Topic: tbd

10.40 Panel discussion

11.15-11.45 COFFEE & TEA BREAK



11.45-13.00 PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Engaging citizens to understand scientific data and knowledge

Topic description

Vanessa Sung

Interim Executive Director, Evidence for Democracy, Canada

Reducing research waste by optimizing the use of research funding and infrastructure

Topic description

Nico van Meeteren*

Executive Director, Topsector Life Sciences and Health, Netherlands

Ana M. P. Melo*

Executive Director, BioData.Pt, Portugal

Challenges around and how to support interdisciplinary research

Topic description

Kate Geddie

Senior Director, CIFAR, Canada

TBD

The role of AI and big data on science and societal impact

Topic description

Anita DeWaard (Chair)

VP, Research Collaborations, Elsevier, United States

Gagan Gill

Program Manager, AI & Society, CIFAR, India

Jude Kong

Executive Director, Africa-Canada Artificial Intelligence and Data Innovation Consortium, Cameroon

Workshop: How to make your research (impact) interesting – the power of storytelling

Topic description

Renira Narrandes

Program Manager, Knowledge Translation, SickKids, Canada



Wednesday, June 21st

13.00-14.00 LUNCH BREAK + GOOD PRACTICES OF SOCIETAL IMPACT STORIES

14.00-15.30 CLOSING PLENARY: FUTURE CHALLENGES AND PLANS

14.00 Presentation of the recommendations from all the parallel sessions

14.30 Rémi Quirion, President, INGSA

SSHRC representative*

Andrea Tricco*, Associate Professor, University of Toronto, Canada

15.15 Closing remarks by AESIS

15.30 CLOSING RECEPTION

* to be confirmed