



EINLADUNG ZUM KOLLOQUIUM

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(Wuppertal)

The Politics of European Collaboration in Big Science

Intergovernmental collaboration in the area of big science has been an important resource for European science since the 1950s, but kept outside of the mainstream work of political integration in (Western) Europe. This has resulted in a cluttered policy field and a situation where collaborations are built on ad hoc solutions rather than a coherent political framework and common regulatory standards. Interestingly, this has in turn created a situation where the genesis and development of collaborative labs and facilities, and their political realities once launched, to significant degrees have come to mirror (geo)political dynamics of Europe. The classic tension that characterizes the politics of these labs and facilities is that between national interest and common good, and it acts out in various ways that lead to interesting conclusions also for the broader picture of science policy and the role of science in society. Using four historical examples, and two contemporary ones in the making, I will in this talk give an overview of the cycles of postwar European collaboration in Big Science, and its politics, and draw conclusions that have relevance for research policy and organization and for the history and sociology of science and technology.

Dr. Olof Hallonsten is postdoctoral researcher at the University of Gothenburg and KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, and currently (2014) guest researcher and Humboldt fellow with the Organizational Sociology group at Wuppertal University. Hallonsten is specialized in the politics and organization of large-scale scientific facilities (Big Science) and the politics and organization of universities and university research.

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18 c.t. Uhr

Raum N.10.20

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