



## EINLADUNG ZUM KOLLOQUIUM

**Susann Wagenknecht**  
(Aarhus)

### **The Division of Epistemic Labour in Research Teams**

If we do not achieve a thorough understanding of the collaborative relationships in groups, the epistemic nature of multi-authored research will remain obscure. Based on ongoing empirical work, I will provide an analysis of the division of epistemic labour in two exemplary research teams and point out implications of this analysis for Philosophy of Science. The division of labour is an object of study with a long history in sociology since Durkheim (1964). The division of epistemic labour in research has recently moved into the focus of Social Epistemology (e.g. Goldberg 2011). Kitcher (1993) and e.g. Goldman (2002: 245ff.) have discussed the division of labor in the scientific community in terms of risk spreading by the establishment of independent research groups. The character of within-group collaboration in scientific practice, however, has not yet been elucidated sufficiently. Groups differ fundamentally from peer communities. On group level, division of labor creates strong, immediate inter-dependence between single scientists. In my talk, I will show that the two groups studied show distinct patterns of dividing and integrating epistemic labour which I will label 'syntagmatic' and 'paradigmatic'. This distinction, then, constitutes a springboard for an outlook on the manifold nature of collaborative knowledge creation and the status of individual knowing with which I will close my talk.

**Susann Wagenknecht** is currently a Ph.D. fellow at the Centre for Science Studies (CSS, Aarhus University). Previously, she graduated from the MA program in History, Philosophy and Sociology of Science at the Institut für Wissenschafts- und Technikforschung (IWT, Bielefeld University). Working at the intersection of Social Epistemology and Philosophy of Science, she studies the collaborative knowledge production in research groups whereby she draws on fieldwork and interviews.

**Mittwoch, 04.07.2012**  
**18 c.t. Uhr**  
**Raum N.10.20**

Volker Remmert  
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