

Mike Thicke

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Education

2016: PhD, History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto
Dissertation Topic: Science-Market Analogies: A Philosophical Examination

- Defended May 9, 2016. Conferred November 2016.
- My dissertation examines analogies between the organization of science and the marketplace and considers whether these analogies can be used to justify trust in science. It particularly concentrates on areas of science that have significant market-like features, such as climate science. I argue that most such analogies ultimately fail, although in recent decades science has been becoming more similar to the market, with varying epistemic consequences.

Supervisor: Joseph Berkovitz (joseph.berkovitz@utoronto.ca)

Committee: Marion Blute (marion.blute@utoronto.ca), Mark Peacock
(mpeacock@yorku.ca)

External Examiner: Torsten Wilholt (twilholt@uni-bielefeld.de)

2008: MA, History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto

2007: BA, Philosophy, University of British Columbia

2003: BSc, Computer Science, University of British Columbia

Publications

"Prediction Markets: Is the Cure Worse than the Disease?" *Social Epistemology* (forthcoming).

"Market Epistemology" *Synthese* (forthcoming).

"Review: Cold War Social Science," *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (2016) 115-117.

"Economic Aspects of Science: Editor's Introduction," *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2013) 1-5.

"Review: David Tyfield, The Economics of Science: A Critical Realist Overview, Volumes 1 and 2," *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2013) 94-96.

"Review: Steve Fuller's *Science, Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 5, No. 1 (2011) 91-94.

Current Research

"What is the Efficient Market Hypothesis?" (Manuscript in Preparation)

"Google as Knower: The Epistemology of Internet Search" (Research in progress)

"The Epistemic Structure of Climate Science" (Research in progress)

Conference Presentations

September 2017: "The Epistemic Structure of Climate Science," Society for the Social Studies of Science (accepted)

June 2017: "What is the Efficient Market Hypothesis?" History of Economics Society (accepted)

May 2017: "The Epistemic Structure of Climate Science," Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

2016: "Reconsidering the Scientific Commodity," Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

2011: "Social Science Indicators in Action: U.S. Senator Walter Mondale's Initiative to Create a Council of Social Advisers," with Mark Solovey, Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science.

2010: "To Measure, Monitor, and Manage the Nation's Social Progress: U.S. Senator Walter Mondale's Initiative to Create a Council of Social Advisers, 1967-1974," with Mark Solovey, History of Science Society annual meeting.

2010: "What's Wrong with Genome Canada? Path Dependence in Canadian Science Policy," Public Science in Canada / Strengthening Science and Policy to Protect Canadians Symposium

2010: "Efficient Science: Applying the Efficient Market Hypothesis to Scientific Communities," Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

2009: "Bayesian Statistics in Gravitational Wave Astronomy," Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

Teaching

2015 - Present: Visiting Faculty, Bard College & Bard Prison Initiative

- Courses taught: First Year Seminar, Economic Debates, Introduction to Philosophy

2013 - 2015: Assistant Professor, American University of Central Asia

- Courses taught: First Year Seminar, History of Economic Thought & Economic History, History and Philosophy of Science

Professional Service

Fall 2014-Spring 2014: Social Sciences Assessment working group, AUCA

- Developed learning objectives and a rubric for evaluating social sciences courses.

2013-2014: First Year Seminar curriculum committee, AUCA

- Helped to select texts for the FYS syllabus taught to all first year students at AUCA. I assisted on three committees, which involved many meetings, researching possible texts, helping to write the final syllabus, and helping to present the syllabus to new faculty.

2013: Concepts of Modern Science curriculum committee, AUCA

- Helped to clarify learning objectives for the “Concepts of Modern Science” course at AUCA and distinguish its goals from history and philosophy of science.

2012-13: Editor-in-Chief, *[Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science](#)*.

- 2012-13 Focused discussion topic: “Economic Aspects of Science”
- Solicited articles; communicated with authors; coordinated reviews, edited articles.
- I continue to be involved with *Spontaneous Generations* as part of its editorial board.

2010-2016: Editor & Developer: *The Bubble Chamber: Thoughts, analysis, and debate at the intersection of science and society* (<http://thebubblechamber.org>).

- Blog by historians and philosophers of science, as well as STS scholars, aimed at public engagement.
- I made regular posts analyzing scientific happenings from the perspective of history and philosophy of science.

2009-2016: Developer: *The University of Toronto Scientific Instrument Collection* (paid contracts)

- Online museum of scientific instruments, with a searchable instrument database and guided exhibits.
- Collaborated in design of site.
- Developed custom Wordpress theme and plugins to create, edit, and maintain instrument database and customized exhibits.

- Maintain and update site as needed.