This initiative is a follow-up to a series of research seminars which took place from February 2014 to June 2015 (see the following link for a description in French: [http://altexpert.hypotheses.org](http://altexpert.hypotheses.org)). While the seminars focused on French experiences only, the upcoming international symposium will aim at contrasting the French context with distinct experiences from other European countries and North America.

The symposium will open a forum for discussion and interaction on the production of the knowledge and expertise that inform occupational health policy.

This event will bring together a wide range of actors involved in the production of knowledge for public policy making, namely: scientists from various disciplines, notably toxicology and epidemiology; social science - sociology, history, political science - researchers interested in knowledge production and application in occupational or environmental health; field actors - practitioners, workers, members of associations - involved in collective actions which led to knowledge production; unionists, committed to workers’ health protection; members of institutions which produce or use scientific expertise regarding work and health (typically health protection agencies); and Master’s and PhD students from diverse disciplines.

Some of the key questions that will be addressed are: how the biomedical and social sciences could be unlocked to facilitate their interplay; how the social sciences could help more; and how these different disciplines could work together better, using field expertise to support advocacy and inform decision-making in occupational health. This will involve identifying recurrent and specific difficulties as well as opportunities for improvement.

The international symposium is organized by Emilie Counil (EHESP, IRIS) and Emmanuel Henry (Université Paris-Dauphine, IRISSO) under the responsibility of a scientific committee representative of both the biomedical and the social sciences. This event is supported by CNRS, DIM Gestes (Paris Region), EHESP, ETUI, IRIS, IRISSO and PRINCEPS program (USPC).

Useful information

The symposium will take place at the Paris EHESP campus, which is in the same building as the Maison des sciences de l’Homme (MSH) Paris Nord.

20 avenue George Sand
93 210 La Plaine Saint-Denis

By public transports:

- The campus is easy to reach by public transports, notably subway:
  - Métro ligne 12 | Front populaire (at the station take exit n°3)
  - RER B | La Plaine – Stade de France puis Bus 119/219
  - RER D | Stade de France – Saint-Denis puis Bus 139
  - RER E | Gare Rosa Parks puis Bus 239

- Bus lignes 139 / 239 / 512 | Front populaire – Proudhon

FYI: Simultaneous translation into English and French will be available.

Registration is free but required before November 25, 2016 at the following link:

bit.ly/irisso_ehesp

For more information, Contact: altexpert2016@gmail.com

What sort of science(s) could make a better contribution to decision-making in occupational health?

6-7 December 2016

EHESP (MSH Paris-Nord site), La Plaine Saint-Denis, France
Tuesday, December 6th, 2016

08:45am Welcoming of participants
09:15am Opening address
09:30am The Altexpert seminar (2014-2015) | Opening the debate about science and expertise in occupational health
  Emilie Counil (epidemiologist, EHESP, France)
  Emmanuel Henry (sociologist, Université Paris-Dauphine, France)
10:30am Keynote speaker | Pain and prejudice: What science can learn about work from the people who do it
  Karen Messing (ergonomist and biologist, UQAM, Canada)
12:00am Lunch break (on-site)
1:30pm Session | When university gets involved with field workers
  Chair: Nathalie Jas (historian, INRA, France)
  The Work Environment Program - A different academic vision
  David Wegman (epidemiologist, Lowell University, USA)
  New Solutions: a journal for science, policy, and political context
  Craig Matlin (work environment policy analyst, Lowell University, USA)
  Linking lay knowledge with academic research: a key issue for occupational health and safety
  Laurent Vogel (lawyer, European Trade Union Institute, ETUI, Belgium)
3:30pm Coffee break
4:00pm Round table | What place is there for field knowledge?
  Chair: Véronique Daubas-Letourneux (sociologist, EHESP, LEST, France)
  Jean-Luc Ruck (sociologist, CNRS, France)
  Reinhold Kühl (Bilthoven forum, Germany)
  Borhane Slama (sociologist, Head of Medical oncology-hematology unit, CH-Angers, France)
  Annie Thébaud-Mony (sociologist, Association Henri Pézerat, France)
6:00pm End

Wednesday, December 7th, 2016

09:00am Keynote speakers | Citizen-Scientists: The Role of the Courts and the Public in Redefining Science and Public Health
  Gerald Markowitz and David Rosner (historians, City University of New York and Columbia University, USA)
10:30am Coffee break
11:00am Round table | Knowledge and expertise in health protection agencies
  Chair: Laure Pitt (historian, Université Paris 8, France)
  François Buton (political scientist, CNRS, France)
  Pascal Empereur-Bissonnet (deputy director, Occupational health direction, Santé Publique France)
  Christine Paris (professor of occupational medicine, Université Tours EFS, France)
  Christophe Perrey (anthropologist, Santé Publique, France)
12:30am Lunch break (on-site)
1:30pm Session | Scientific expertise and Low Dose Exposure
  Chair: Eve Bourgkard (epidemiologist, INRS, ADEREST, France)
  Nuclear workers studies: controversy about risks to health from low dose radiation
  Ausrele Kesminiene (epidemiologist, IARC, France)
  Reconstructing radiation doses for international epidemiological studies: Main challenges in nuclear workers studies
  Isabelle Thierry-Chef (physicist, IARC, France)
  How Expertise deals with Scientific and Political Uncertainty of Low Dose Exposure
  Soraya Boullia (sociologist, Université Paris Descartes, France)
3:30pm Coffee break
4:00pm Keynote speaker | Methods for collaboration across different forms of situated knowledges: the REACH Ambler Project
  Britt Dahlberg (anthropologist, Chemical Heritage Foundation, USA)
5:30pm Conclusions
  By Gerald Markowitz and David Rosner