

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction xi

PART ONE THE PLAYERS AND THE POSITION

Chapter 1 The Players: STS, Rhetoric, Social Epistemology 3

HPS as the prehistory of STS 3

The turn to sociology and STS 9

Rhetoric: The theory behind the practice 17

Enter the social epistemologist 24

Chapter 2 The Position: Interdisciplinarity
as Interpenetration 33

The terms of the argument 33

The perils of pluralism 38

Interpenetration's interlopers 44

The pressure points for interpenetration 48

The task ahead (and the enemy within) 56

Here I stand 64

PART TWO INTERPENETRATION AT WORK

Chapter 3 Incorporation, or Epistemology Emergent 69

Tycho on the run 70

Hegel to the rescue 84

Building the better naturalist 94

Conclusion: Naturalism's trial by fire 100

Chapter 4	Reflexion, or the Missing Mirror of the Social Sciences	102
	Why the scientific study of science might just show that there is no science to study	106
	The elusive search for science in the social sciences: Deconstructing the five canonical historiographies	114
	How economists defeated political scientists at their own game	126
	Conclusion: The rhetoric that is science	133
Chapter 5	Sublimation, or Some Hints on How to be Cognitively Revolting	139
	Introduction: Of rhetorical impasses and forced choices	140
	Some impasses in the artificial intelligence debates	142
	Drawing the battle lines	144
	AI as PC-positivism	146
	How my enemy's enemy became my friend	151
	But now that the coast is clear	156
	Three attempts to clarify the cognitive	168
	AI's strange bedfellows: Actants	179
Chapter 6	Excavation, or the Withering Away of History and Philosophy of Science and the Brave New World of Science and Technology Studies	186
	Positioning social epistemology in the transition from HPS to STS	187
	The price of humanism in historical scholarship	192
	A symmetry principle for historicism	200
	Historicism's version of the cold war	203
	Under- and overdetermining history	210
	When in doubt, experiment	213
	STS as the posthistory of HPS	220

Contents

PART THREE OF POLICY AND POLITICS

Chapter 7 Knowledge Policy: Where's the Playing Field? 227

- Science policy: The very idea 229
- An aside on science journalism 234
- Managing the unmanageable 237
- The social construction of society 251
- The constructive rhetoric of
knowledge policy 255
- Armed for policy: Fact-laden values
and hypothetical imperatives 262
- Machiavelli redux? 270
- A recap on values as a prelude to politics 275

Chapter 8 Knowledge Politics: What Position Shall I Play? 277

- Philosophy as protopolitics 277
- Have science and democracy outgrown
each other? 281
- Back from postmodernism and into the
public sphere 290
- Beyond academic indifference 300
- Postscript: The social epistemologist at the
bargaining table 307

PART FOUR SOME WORTHY OPPONENTS

Chapter 9 Opposing the Relativist 319

- The Socratic legacy to relativism 319
- The sociology of knowledge debates:
Will the real relativist please stand up? 321
- Interlude I: An inventory of relativisms 324
- Interlude II: Mannheim's realistic relativism 326
- Is relativism obsolete? 328
- Counterrelativist models of
knowledge production 335

Chapter 10	Opposing the Antitheorist	347
	A Fish story about theory	347
	What exactly does "Theory has no consequences" mean?	352
	Fish's positivistic theory of "theory"	354
	Toward a more self-critical positivist theory of "theory"	358
	The universality, abstractness, and foolproofness of theory	360
	Convention, autonomy, and Fish's "paper radicalism"	363
	Consequential theory: An account of presumption	367
Postscript	The World of Tomorrow, as Opposed to the World of Today	377
Appendix	Course Outlines For Science and Technology Studies in a Rhetorical Key	383
	References	393
	Index	415