

# Society/Environment/Biology

Colloquium of the Chair in Science and Technology Studies

## Lively Selves or Risky Subjects: The Unsettled Life of a Technology of Solidarity.

1 7 . 0 5 . 2 0 1 8

University Library Veranstaltungssaal (1. OG), 16.00

**P r o f . D r . N A N C Y C A M P B E L L**

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY

Department of Science and Technology Studies in the School of Humanities,  
Arts and Social Sciences

**FRIAS Fellow**

Social movements have become an important object and subject of attention in Science and Technology Studies (STS). This presentation examines harm reduction social movements, which try to reduce the consequences of risky drug-use behaviors through prevention, education, and distribution of clean needles and other technologies. This presentation centers around ideas and representations of naloxone, a narcotic antagonist used to revive those undergoing opioid overdoses, situating it as a “technology of solidarity” useful for expanding concepts of social responsibility among “bystanders” and others likely to witness overdose events. How was naloxone, an approved medical technology used regularly by emergency medical responder, “unsettled” and “reformatted”? How did naloxone move from a state of “closure” to one in which meaning was up for grabs? How were law, policy, and clinical guidelines remade so as to widen distribution? And, most significantly, how did “naloxone” go from being an unfamiliar object to a familiar one as overdose death rates have continued to rise in the United States?

The lecture is free and open to the public.



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