

Supporting the “metascientific” community

Luciano Boschiero¹ · K. Brad Wray²

Published online: 16 October 2015
© Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht 2015

We would like to welcome two new additions to the editorial team at Springer looking after *Metascience*. Jos Walbeek has retired, passing the baton to Catherine Murphy to take over as Production Co-ordinator. We wish Jos the best in his retirement and thank him for his efforts over many years overseeing the production of the journal. Steve O’Reilly has also joined the team assisting Publishing Editor, Lucy Fleet. We would like to welcome Catherine and Steve to *Metascience*, and we look forward to working with them. Indeed, Catherine was instrumental in helping us meet our production deadline for the July issue of *Metascience*.

There has also been a recent change to the Editorial Board, with the departure of Richard Menary. We thank Richard for several years of exceptional service to the journal and wish him all the best in his work.

While there have been some personnel changes in recent times, the ambition of the journal remains the same, to publish high-quality reviews of books in history, philosophy and sociology of science and technology. As editors we are mindful of the reputation of the journal and the audience it reaches through its wide coverage of topics. Since 1996, almost 1400 articles have been published in 58 issues, on topics ranging from ancient Greek mathematics to twentieth-century scientific biographies and contemporary approaches to philosophy of science.

Metascience has established this appeal since its first edition in 1984 as a publication of the Australasian Association for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science (AAHPSSS). In that edition, the former president of AAHPSSS, Lyndsay A. Farrall introduced the journal with a reminder to readers of the “broad

✉ Luciano Boschiero
l.boschiero@campion.edu.au

K. Brad Wray
brad.wray@oswego.edu

¹ Champion College, Sydney, Australia

² State University of New York, Oswego, USA

spectrum of scholarship” covered in the various departments of history and philosophy of science that had sprouted in Australia and New Zealand in the second half of the twentieth century. *Metascience* was intended to serve the needs of that broad spectrum “by reviewing developments in the various areas of academic endeavour concerned with the study of science and by encouraging critical assessment of these developments through informed discussion and debate” (vol. 1/2, 1984). Since then the spectrum has gotten wider and more diverse, as can be seen in the variety of themes covered in the reviews of recent years. That diversity, we firmly believe, makes a journal like *Metascience* even more relevant as it attempts to bring together scholars working in various specialised topics and breaks down the traditional barriers between scholars of history, philosophy and sociology of science, the “metascientific community”, as Farrell put it. The widening breadth of the spectrum to which Farrell referred is evident also in the global reach of the journal. *Metascience* has grown to be a truly international journal attracting reviewers and readers from around the world.

The depth and breadth of the journal’s coverage is evident in the crop of reviews now available online and in the current issue. They include, among many insightful reviews, a symposium by Alexander Reutlinger, Phyllis Illari, Andreas Hüttemann and Matthias Frisch on Frisch’s *Causal Reasoning in Physics* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2014); a fascinating insight into medieval science and technology in a review by Constance H. Berman of Adam Lucas’ *The Daily Grind: Monastic Milling in Britain* (Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate, 2014); and Ian James Kidd’s excellent review of a classic, Paul Feyerabend’s provocative book *Against Method*, on the fortieth anniversary of its publication.

As always, we would like to encourage all scholars interested in reviewing for *Metascience* to contact us. If there is a book that you would like to review or see reviewed in the journal, please feel free to write to us with your suggestion (brad.wray@oswego.edu; l.boschiero@campion.edu.au). Also, if you are the author of a new book, please do not hesitate to alert us to your publication.