

Seminar SAW

Rethinking Practices and Cultures in the History of Science

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Hans-Jörg Rheinberger, Max Planck Institute für Wissenschaftsgeschichte

Glimpses into the Space Between Laboratory and Discipline

Abstract – For a long time, scientific disciplines were the structures that were of particular interest to historians of science and sociologists of science alike. With the practice turn, laboratories moved into the focus of science studies, history of science, and anthropology of science. This paper focuses on the space between these macro- and micro-levels, respectively. I will treat a number of historical attempts to conceptualize this meso-space, and try to concretize its characteristics through examples taken from the history of molecular biology.