

# Preface



It is a truism that collaboration is the key to success. In the case of this volume, collaboration between scholars from different countries and disciplines was the key to success. Everything began with a chance encounter between a historian of science and a sociologist of science, who soon discovered their common interest in conceptual approaches to science policy. This set the scene for a fruitful interdisciplinary collaboration between the two of us. We both had studied historical science policy discourses in Germany and the United States. Analyzing these two countries suggested that the concepts of basic and applied research played a key role in shaping science policy. In order to explore the global synchronization of this distinction on the one hand, and the cultural variation of science policy discourses on the other hand, we decided to bring together scholars with expertise in the history of science policy in other countries who could widen our perspective.

We presented and discussed our project on several occasions and received invaluable feedback. We would like to thank Benoît Godin, Graeme Gooday, Lea Haller, Alexei Kojevnikov, John Krige, Dominique Pestre, Roger Pielke, Jr., Steven Shapin, and Rudolf Stichweh for discussing shifting notions of basic and applied research with us. Moreover, this volume benefited from the joint reflections within CASTI, an international network of scholars interested in “Conceptual Approaches to Science, Technology and Innovation” ([www.casti.org](http://www.casti.org)). Together we have elaborated a common research program on the semantic field of science, technology, and innovation. We would thus like to extend our gratitude to all members of the network for being such a stimulating group of scholars and such a likeable bunch of friends.

Many others have contributed to the publication of this volume. We are indebted to Jason Chumtong for excellent editorial and technical assistance. At various stages, the project benefited from the support of Ivonne Weyers, Deepal Doshi, Silke Engels, and Lars Fritzsche. We are also grateful for the valuable comments and suggestions of the two anonymous referees. Our special thanks go out to Willibald Steinmetz and Michael Freeden, who showed great interest in our studies of science, technology, and innovation as an emerging

field within conceptual history and agreed to include the book in the European Conceptual History series. Finally, we are much obliged to the authors contributing original research papers to our book in a time when evaluation regimes put pressure on publishing journal articles instead of books.

*David Kaldewey and Désirée Schauz, March 2018*