We are happy to announce that our next OWL colloquium speaker is **Nelly Oudshoorn**.  
**Date & time:** October 13, 4-5 pm  
**Venue:** Room WN-S655 in VU University Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1085,  
**Abstract:** **Hybrid bodies and the materiality of everyday life**  
How people living with pacemakers and defibrillators reinvent everyday routines and intimate relations  
Technologies inside bodies introduce novel challenges for living in a technological culture. For people with pacemakers and defibrillators, passing security controls, using electromagnetic machines, electrical and electronic devices, and intimate contacts with their loved ones turn into events where the proper working of their device may be at risk. Anticipation of potentially harmful events and places thus becomes an important part of the choreography of everyday life. Technologies inside bodies not only provide a challenge for patients living with these devices but also for theorizing the relations between bodies and technologies. Whereas researchers usually address the merging of bodies and technologies, implants ask us to do the opposite. How to understand body-technology relations in which the entanglement of hybrid bodies and objects external to the body has to be avoided rather than achieved? Based on a study of the daily life practices of people with pacemakers and defibrillators in the Netherlands and the US, I argue that disentanglement work, i.e. anticipation to prevent entanglements between bodies and objects, is key to understanding how hybrid bodies can survive and what bodies and responsibilities are enacted in today’s densely populated technological landscapes.

**About our speaker:** Nelly Oudshoorn is professor of Technology Dynamics and Health Care at the University of Twente, The Netherlands. Her research interests and publications concern the relationships between users, technologies and bodies. Her most recent books include Telecare Technologies and the Transformation of Healthcare (2011, Palgrave Macmillan), and The New Production of Users. Changing Innovation Collectives and Involvement Strategies (Routledge, co-edited together with Sampsa Hyysalo and Torben Elgaard Jensen). She is a member of the advisory board of several international journals, including Science, Technology & Human Values and Social Studies of Science.

**Next OWL Colloquium:**  
Prof. dr. Arie Rip  
**Responsible Research and Innovation**  
24/11, 4 pm

**About the Athena Institute**  
The Athena Institute at VU University Amsterdam is part of the science faculty. From its early days in the 1990s onwards, it has developed tools and methodologies to successfully deal with science-society interactions at all stages of research and innovation.

**About the OWL colloquium**  
With its monthly OWL colloquium the Athena Institute aspires to stimulate an inter-, multi-, cross and trans-disciplinary process of deliberation about topics relating to the interface between science and society. Speakers from all corners both within and without academia (CSOs, policy, business and industry...) are invited to present on empirical, theoretical and methodological developments topical to bridging the variety of gaps that complicate science and society interactions.

For more information, please contact us at [OWL.colloquium.falw@vu.nl](mailto:OWL.colloquium.falw@vu.nl).