The call for science not only to contribute to the existing stock of knowledge but also to finding solutions for societal challenges grows ever louder, not in the least by funders of science and innovation. This leads scientists to rethink their role(s) and identities, in light of which various questions arise regarding problems to work on, methods to use, actors with different (disciplinary) backgrounds and forms of expertise to involve and ways of communicating and collaborating with these.

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 pertinent to all questions posed above—and more. Thus, 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.

First OWL colloquium
We are happy to announce that our first OWL colloquium speaker is

Prof. Dr. Hans Boutellier.
Date & time: 26/11, 16:00-17:00
Venue: VU University Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1085, WN M-143

About our first speaker, Hans Boutellier
Hans Boutellier is professor of Security and citizenship at VU University and research director of the Verwey-Jonker Instituut. He has published widely on social security issues. His books include The safety utopia and Governance in the Wmo (in Dutch). His latest book is Local government in an improvisation society (in Dutch).

Preliminary program 2015-2016
Prof. Dr. Hans Boutellier 26 Nov. ’15
Prof. Dr. Ir. Maria Jansen 11 Dec. ’15
Prof. Dr. Ir. Gerard de Vries TBA

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. It is home to experts working from a plethora of backgrounds on making research and innovation responsible and responsive, including science policy and governance, ethical and social aspects of science and participatory methods of research and intervention.

The OWL colloquium is organized by Jacqueline Broerse, Pim Klaassen and Michelle Rijnen. For more information, please contact us through M.Rijnen@vu.nl.