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.

OWL colloquium
We are happy to announce that our next OWL colloquium speaker is prof.dr.ir. Gerard de Vries

Date & time: 28/1, 16:00-17:00
Venue: VU University Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1085, WN C-121

About our speaker: Gerard de Vries
Gerard de Vries is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy of Science at the University of Amsterdam. Previously, De Vries was a.o. Professor of Philosophy at Maastricht University and Dean of WTMC, the Netherlands Graduate School in Science, Technology and Modern Culture. His monograph ‘Bruno Latour’ will be published by Polity Press, Cambridge, in 2016. From 2006-2014, De Vries served as a council-member at the Scientific Council for Government Policy.

Abstract: ‘Towards a Food Policy’
In October 2014, the Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR), the think-tank for long-term policy issues of the Dutch government in The Hague, published its (book-length) report ‘Towards a Food Policy’. The report (1) discusses the problems the world of food faces in the domains of sustainability, public health and the robustness of the food system, (2) analyses the conditions that government policies in this domain have to face and (3) advises the Dutch government to redirect its current policies. In October 2015 the government has published its reaction to ‘Towards a Food Policy’, required by Dutch law. In his talk, De Vries will present the backgrounds of the report and its analyses and conclusions.

Preliminary program 2015-2016
Prof. Dr. Ir. Gerard de Vries 28 Jan ’16
Dr. Vincent Blok, MBA 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.

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