Professor Johan Schot Biography

Short Biography (367 Words)

Professor Johan Schot is Director at the internationally renowned Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU) at the University of Sussex. As a Professor in History of Technology and Sustainability Transitions Studies, Schot’s interests orientate around action-driven research that focuses on integrating disciplines and providing the historical perspective for increased knowledge to support positive societal change. He is the author of many influential publications including Transitions Towards Sustainable Development. New Directions In The Study Of Long Term Transformative Change (Grin, Rotman & Schot) and Writing The Rules For Europe: Experts, Cartels And International Organisations (Schot & Kaiser)

Currently, his research directions span three areas. Firstly, he is fronting, along with colleagues at SPRU, the transition to transformative innovation policy. This centres on examining how governments, and other actors, can create policies that enable innovations that can transform our current idea of progress to address the issues of our ‘world in transition’ – climate degradation, security, migration amongst others. He is the founder of the Transformative Innovation Policy Consortium (TIPC - www.transformative-innovation-policy.net) Policymakers and researchers, internationally, have the opportunity to move beyond current frameworks and models, to create a new thinking for innovation that could transform our approach to growth so that neither the environment, economy nor humanity are harmed further. This area also includes an exploration of the world in transition through the notion of ‘Second Deep Transition’. The second research area demonstrates the vital role users of technologies play in evolving them to a dominant position in society. The third arena of interest is with the International Panel on Social Progress, (IPSS – www.ipsp.org) where Schot examines the role of science and technology in developing a new agenda on social progress for the 21st century. Working papers and more information available at www.johanschot.com / www.transformative-innovation-policy.net / Follow on Twitter @Johan_Schot

Schot is a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) elected for his achievements in interdisciplinary work. In 2002 he was awarded a VICI grant by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). In 2015 he was awarded the Leonardo da Vinci Medal for his outstanding contributions to the history of technology. He won distinguished the Freeman Award 2014 for the Making Europe series.