

Society for Social Studies of Science 2014 Presidential Election
Candidate Bio and Statement (submitted 17 May 2014)

Bio: Lucy Suchman is Professor of Anthropology of Science and Technology in the Department of Sociology at Lancaster University, UK, and Co-Director of Lancaster's Centre for Science Studies. She received a Ph.D. in social/cultural anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley and spent twenty years as a researcher at Xerox's Palo Alto Research Center before taking up her present position. Her research has focused on the sociomaterial practices that make up technical systems, explored through critical studies and through ethnographic, interdisciplinary, and participatory interventions in new technology design. Her current research, informed by feminist theory, extends her longstanding engagement with the field of human-computer interaction and the design of humanlike machines to the domain of contemporary war fighting, including the figurations that animate military training and simulation, and problems of 'situational awareness' in remotely-controlled weapon systems. She is the author of *Human-Machine Reconfigurations* (Cambridge, 2007) and has published journal articles and book chapters for both social and information sciences audiences. In 2002 she received the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Computer and Cognitive Sciences, and in 2010 the Lifetime Research Award from the Association of Computing Machinery's Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction. She is a Collaborating Editor for the journal *Social Studies of Science* and served on the 4S Council from 1996 to 1998.

Statement: Social studies of science and technology have as an ongoing challenge to combine theoretically informed, scholarly analysis with critical, transformative interventions within technoscientific worlds. The 4S has a longstanding commitment to intellectual exchange that places shared concerns before disciplinary allegiances. This history positions us well to press further on the possibilities for a vital, expansive, transdisciplinary practice. Our collective project involves a broad spectrum of engagements, from generative critique to dialogic interventions and other forms of activism. It brings together as well, in a rich if not always easy combination, perspectives based in multiple lineages of intellectual history and disciplinary practice; from sociology to cultural anthropology, philosophy, politics and social history; from ethnomethodology to feminist theory, cultural, postcolonial, literary and information studies. My aim as President of the Society would be to encourage lively mixings of our various perspectives that acknowledge differences while avoiding divisions; to continue the extension of our networks beyond their historical bases in North America and Western Europe; to strengthen the institutional sponsorship of STS within the academy in support of students and early career scholars; to foster 4S initiatives in support of social justice and nonhuman thriving; and to further close engagement of science and technology scholars with technoscience practitioners, while insisting on our commitment to careful scholarship and to the integrity of our research.