Vanguard of Science Studies To Speak At 2014 AAA Annual Meeting

Bruno Latour, Ph.D., vanguard figure in anthropology and political theory, will speak as the distinguished lecturer on Anthropology at the Time of the Anthropocene: A Personal View on What is to Be Studied at the 113th American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting.

The lecture will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Marriott Wardman Park – Marriott Ballroom Salon 2 from 4:30-6:15 p.m. as part of the 113th AAA Annual Meeting. The meeting, held during the week of Dec. 3-7, offers more than 5,000 sessions and special events with the theme, Producing Anthropology. Anthropologists will offer a provocation to examine the truths we encounter, produce and how these affect the communities in which we live.

Latour, Professor at Sciences Po in Paris and London School of Economics, works in the intersection of philosophy, history, sociology, anthropology and science. Latour has collaborated on many studies in science policy and research management. He has written Laboratory Life (Princeton University Press), Science in Action, and The Pasteurization of France. He also published a field study on an automatic subway system Aramis.

His recent endeavor stemmed from a collaborative concept of a media lab to test social theory by the spread of digital methods. The media lab, over three years, has grown into an essential hub for a variety of work especially on the mapping of controversies in science and technology.

Through a European Research Council Senior grant, he created An Inquiry into Modes of Existence project (AIME). The project includes an experimental classroom bringing students together from the fields of art, design, architecture and the social sciences to tackle the three domains of representation: science, politics and the arts.

The 113th AAA Annual Meeting will be held at the Marriott Wardman Park and Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., where more than 6,000 anthropologists will tackle some of the world’s most pressing issues, including: Ebola, public health, food security, the Middle East, social change and climate change. There will also be a week-long media festival.

Many sessions are open to the public, registration is required.

To participate, press must register by Dec. 1, 2014. Press will receive complimentary registration to the Annual Meeting sessions, press conferences, admittance to invited sessions, special events and access to press-only workspace. The AAA has a new Press Credential Policy to better serve press and their editorial coverage. Onsite press registration will not be granted.

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Founded in 1902, the American Anthropological Association, with more than 10,000 members, is the world's largest professional organization of anthropologists. The Association is dedicated to advancing human understanding and tackling the world's most pressing problems.