



Mathilde Bourrier

Les organisations et leur constante reconfiguration: une quête sans fin

Biography

She holds a PhD in Sociology from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (1996) and Habilitation from the University of Technology in Compiègne (2004). She moved to Switzerland in 2006 to become a professor of Sociology at the University of Geneva. She taught previously at the Technology University of Compiègne (1997-2006). She works on the social construction of safety, focusing on the conditions under which organizational reliability can be achieved and sustained. During her years at the University of California at Berkeley (1992-1995), she was associated with the High Reliability Organization's group founded by prof. Todd La Porte. She has conducted extensive ethnographic studies at nuclear power plants in France and in the US, in public hospitals, looking for example at skills and know-how transmission in Anaesthesiology. She published four books with the Presses Universitaires de France, l'Harmattan, Cambridge University Press and more recently with Ashgate. Her work has appeared in Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management, European Management Journal, Revue Française de Sociologie, Revue Socio-Anthropologie. In the past, she has acted as external expert and academic consultant for the French parliamentary Office of Technology Assessment, the OECD-Nuclear Energy Agency, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the French nuclear regulatory agency, and Electricité de France (EDF). She has been involved with research projects dealing with outbreaks' management since 2008, as part of an American Science Foundation 's project conducted at the University of California at Berkeley by Ann Keller, Chris Ansell and Art Reingold (2008-2011). She is especially interested in organizational design and resources' allocation during severe and challenging conditions, like epidemics or pandemics.

Summary of the conference

Dans cette conférence, on cherchera à se re-poser la question de ce qui fait organisation. A quelles conditions, peut-on dire que l'on est face à une organisation? Pourquoi est-il devenu si difficile aujourd'hui d'en déterminer les contours, les espaces, les territoires, les légitimités, les lieux de pouvoir? Est-ce un problème ou une opportunité pour la sociologie des organisations? Si les objets de la sociologie des organisations se sont transformés, comment à son tour cette branche de la sociologie peut-elle épouser d'autres cadres, faire évoluer ses pratiques, reconfigurer son espace de questionnements? Finalement, comment peut-elle proposer des narrations sociologiques capables d'accompagner et d'éclairer le futur des organisations?