



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA

FISPPA

DIPARTIMENTO DI FILOSOFIA, SOCIOLOGIA,
PEDAGOGIA E PSICOLOGIA APPLICATA

CISFIS

CENTRO INTERDIPARTIMENTALE DI RICERCA
IN STORIA E FILOSOFIA DELLA SCIENZA

SCIECONS Science and Conspiracy

Dealing with
Scientific Denialism,
Distrust of Expertise
and Conspiracy Theories

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP
University of Padova, November 28-30, 2016

Steering committee:

Pierdaniele Giaretta, Fabio Grigenti, Philippe Huneman,
Anouk Barberousse, Marion Vorms, Luca Rivelli

SCIECONS Conference

November 28, 2016. University of Padova, Aula Nievo, Palazzo del Bo, via VIII Febbraio 2, Padova, Italy

Programme

10.00 - 10.15: Welcome Greetings of the Rector of the University of Padova, prof. Rosario Rizzuto

10.15 - 10.30: Pierdaniele Giaretta (University of Padova, FISPPA, CISFIS)
Opening Remarks and Introduction to the Conference

10.30 - 12.00: Paolo Preto (University of Padova, Dept. of Historical and Geographic Sciences and the Ancient World – DiSSGeA)
LECTIO MAGISTRALIS: *Complotti contro la scienza e gli scienziati*

14.30 - 16.00: Stephan Lewandowsky (University of Bristol, School of Experimental Psychology)
When Denial of the Undeniable and Logical Incoherence are Politically Rational: an Anatomy of Climate Change Denial

16.00 - 17.30: Matthew Dentith (University of Bucharest, Institute for Research in the Humanities)
Expertise and Conspiracy Theories: on the Improvised Nature of Conspiracy Theories and Conspiracy Theorising

17.30 - 19.00: Walter Quattrociocchi (IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca, Laboratory of Computational Social Science)
Post-Truth Society

SCIECONS Workshop

November 29–30, 2016. University of Padova, Sala Seminari, FISPPA Department, P.zza Capitanato 3, Padova

Programme

November 29

15.00 – 15.45: **Juha Räikkä** (University of Turku, Philosophy Unit, Dept. of Philosophy, Contemporary History, and Political Science)
How to Deal with Conspiracy Theories?

15.45 – 16.30: **Jens Koed Madsen** (University of London, Birkbeck College, Department of Psychology)
Emergent Conspiracy Theories from Fully Rational Agents: a Network Analysis Using an Agent-Based Model

16.30 – 17.15: **Renato Bozio** (University of Padova, Dept. of Chemical Sciences – DiSC, CISFIS)
Post-Academic Research and Public Reliance on Science

17.15 – 18.00: **Stephanie Ruphy** (Université Grenoble-Alpes, Laboratoire Philosophie, Pratiques & Langages – PPL)
Can Public Engagement With Science Improve Scientific Expertise?

November 30

09.45 – 10.30: **Telmo Pievani** (Univ. of Padova, Dept. of Biology, CISFIS) and **Francesco Suman** (Univ. of Padova, Dept. of Biology)
Conspiracy theories and Social Intelligent Design: an Evolutionary Perspective

10.30 – 11.15: **Luca Rivelli** (Univ. of Padova, FISPPA) and **Massimo Nucci** (Univ. of Padova, Dept. of General Psychology)
Fake Data Analysis: a Possible Statistical Aid for Debunking Denialism?

11.15 – 12.00: **Olivier Sartenaer** (Université Catholique de Louvain, Institut Supérieur de Philosophie)
Conspiring Could Be Rational After All (So Say Free Will Illusionists)

12.00: lunch break

15.30 – 16.15: **Pierfrancesco Biasetti** (University of Padova, FISPPA)
Conspiracy Theorizing: a Right to do Wrong?

16.15 – 17.00: **Fabio Grigenti** (University of Padova, FISPPA, CISFIS)
Conspiracy and Literature: the Case of Umberto Eco

17.00 – 18.40: **SCIECONS Flash Talks**

Open to brief talks or improvised ideas, for discussion or brainstorming
Format: 10 min talk + 10 min debate, or 20 min brainstorming on an idea

Expected participants:

Adelino Cattani (University of Padova, FISPPA): *Rhetorics of Conspiracy*

Marion Vorms (University of London, Birkbeck College, Dept. of Psychological Sciences)

Plus, anybody who desires to submit some unfinished, possibly problematic idea or start a brainstorming session