Biographies Of Scientific Objects

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looks at how whole domains of phenomena come into being and sometimes pass away as objects of scientific study with examples from the natural and social sciences ranging from the 16th to the 20th centuries this book explores the ways in which scientific objects are both real and historical

this book argues that all the cognitive science disciplines are not equally able to provide answers to ontological questions about the mind but rather that only neurophysiology and cultural psychology are suited to answer these questions book jacket

what kind of stuff is the world made of what is the nature or substance of things these are ontological questions and they are usually answered with respect to the objects of science the objects of technoscience tell a different story that concerns the power promise and potential of things not what they are but what they can be seventeen scholars from history and philosophy of science epistemology social anthropology cultural studies and ethics each explore a research object in its technological setting ranging from carbon to cardboard from arctic ice cores to nuclear waste from wetlands to gmo seeds from fuel cells to the great pacific garbage patch together they offer fascinating stories and novel analytic concepts all the while opening up a space for reflecting on the specific character of technoscientific objects with their promise of sustainable innovation and a technologically transformed future these objects are highly charged with values and design expectations by clarifying their mode of existence we are learning to come to terms more generally with the furniture of the technoscientific world where for example the dead matter of classical physics is becoming the smart material of emerging and converging technologies

integrated history and philosophy of science ihps is commonly understood as the study of science from a combined historical and philosophical perspective yet since its gradual formation as a research field the question of how to suitably integrate both perspectives remains open this volume presents cutting edge research from junior ihps scholars and in doing so provides a snapshot of current developments within the field explores the connection between ihps and other academic disciplines and demonstrates some of the topics that are attracting the attention of scholars who will help define the future of ihps

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