



The University of
Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM · CHINA · MALAYSIA

Public debate

Who decides the future: science, politics or the people?

Who has the power to decide where our societies are heading, and the right balance between scientific progress, democratic oversight and political leadership?

23 June 2015

6pm-7.30pm

Council House
Nottingham
NG1 2DT



Free admission

Please register at www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/stsdebate

Public debate

Who decides the future: science, politics or the people?

In our interconnected and technologically advanced world, science is seen as vital to securing our future wellbeing: identifying threats and producing innovative solutions. Politicians look to science as a guide to the future direction of society. Yet, the relationship of science and politics with the public is often uneasy. Some new scientific frontiers, such as genetically modified crops and stem cell research, sit uneasily with many in society. Equally, the objectivity from which science draws its power may become threatened by too close a relationship with government.

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Speakers

Alice Bell

Head of Campaign Communications at 10:10
and freelance writer

Alice is previously editor at *How We Get to Next*,
and blogger on science policy for *The Guardian*

Mike Bonsall

Professor of Mathematical Biology at the
University of Oxford, member of DEFRA Advisory
Committee on Releases to the Environment

Mike is involved in science policy work with
the European Food Safety Authority

Clare Burrage

Royal Society University Research Fellow in
the Particle Theory group at The University
of Nottingham

Clare participated in the Royal Society
MP-Scientist pairing scheme and the Houses
of Parliament SET for Britain event

Roland Jackson

Executive Chair of Sciencewise, member of the
Industrial Biotechnology Catalyst Management
Board, and member of the Nuffield Council
on Bioethics

Roland speaks here in a personal capacity

Chaired by

Maria Nedeva

Professor of Science and Innovation
Dynamics and Policy at the Manchester
Institute of Innovation Research

This public debate is presented as part of
**Circling the square 2: Universities, the media,
citizens and politics 22-23 June 2015**

a conference organised by The University of
Nottingham's Science, Technology and Society
Priority Group, with support from Nottingham
Catalyst, which links research at the University
with the wider community.

www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/sts-conference

Twitter: #circlesq