Building a capacity to anticipate the challenges of innovation is one of the primary goals of CNS-ASU. To that end, CNS-ASU faculty led three efforts to coalesce an international community working to establish a common understanding of responsible innovation (RI) research, training, and outreach and to incorporate ethics, responsibility, and sustainability into R & D.

In an effort to accelerate the formation of an international community of scholars and practitioners working to create a common concept of RI, CNS-ASU established the Virtual Network for Responsible Innovation (VIRI). Part of NSF’s initiative, “Science Across Virtual Institutes,” VIRI is led by CNS-ASU members David Guston and Erik Fisher and aims to facilitate worldwide collaboration among RI students and scholars and to contribute to the governance of emerging technologies, often dominated by competitive economic, political, and societal forces.

David Guston led an international symposium, “Responsible Innovation in a Global Context,” at the AAAS 2014 conference. In addition to Dr. Erik Fisher, who directs the Socio-Technical Integration Research (STIR) project and leads RTTA 4 at CNS-ASU, the symposium included researchers from Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Japan, Norway, and the United Kingdom. They shared their experiences with defining and implementing responsible innovation in a variety of societal and political contexts.

David Guston, together with VIRI colleagues, successfully proposed the Journal of Responsible Innovation to the British academic publishing house Taylor & Francis. The journal covers a wide range of RI topics and publishes traditional journal articles and research reports; pedagogical articles; and reviews, discussion papers, and perspectives on current political, technical, and cultural events. CNS-ASU director David Guston is the founding editor-in-chief, and CNS-ASU’s Erik Fisher is an associate editor. The inaugural issue, released in February, is available in its entirety at http://explore.tandfonline.com/doi/est/tjri

Dr. David Guston is the director of CNS-ASU, co-director of the Consortium for Science, Policy and Outcomes (CSPO), and professor of politics and global studies at ASU. Dr. Erik Fisher is assistant professor in CSPO and the School of Politics and Global Studies at ASU.