

EnLIGHTeNING Lunch

with **Lauren Withycombe Keeler**

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Tempe Campus: Coor 5536

Helping cities cope with disruptive technologies: The case of self-driving cars

Self-driving cars are a near-term technology with potentially disruptive consequences for cities – impacting infrastructure, driving patterns, local economies, and the environment. Currently, the Victoria Transportation Policy Institutes estimates self-driving cars will comprise 30–50% of total vehicle miles traveled in the U.S. by the 2040s. And in January 2016, President Obama promised an additional \$4 billion in Federal expenditure to advance research on driverless vehicles. The 20th Century saw automobiles affect the social and material fabric of the city but today self-driving cars are largely absent from city planning. In a recent survey, only 4 out of the 68 largest US cities had explicitly considered self-driving cars in their long-term transportation plans. This suggests that cities lack the capacity to seek and assimilate knowledge about emerging technologies into planning and governance. This talk will discuss the opportunities and challenges posed by anticipatory governance and responsible innovation for helping cities plan for, absorb, and direct disruptive technologies within their jurisdictions by exploring the case of self-driving cars.

RSVP to csपो@asu.edu by noon on Tuesday, February 23
Lunch will be served (must RSVP).

Lauren Withycombe Keeler is a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Nanotechnology in Society. She has a PhD in Sustainability from ASU and comes to CNS by way of Leuphana University in Lüneburg, Germany. In her research and teaching Lauren uses foresight methods to explore plausible and surprising impacts of emerging technologies to inform responsible innovation, anticipatory governance, and broader and more informed public participation in building a sustainable future.



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