Andrew Webster, Director of the Science and Technology Studies Unit at the University of York (UK), recently claimed that “Social science can help in interrogating the evidence and assumptions behind theoretical models … To make the most of science, we must know how science operates, and understand the factors that influence it” (Nature 532:7). At the Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science (MCPS), we agree and intentionally bring together historians, philosophers, scientists, and other scholars to interrogate the assumptions and evidence behind scientific models in order to better comprehend how the sciences work and what implications follow from their practices and findings. Here we offer a glimpse of some recent activities that are structured to achieve these goals. For more details, visit us online (www.mcps.umn.edu).

Alan C. Love
Director

Just published! Volume 20 of the Minnesota Studies in Philosophy of Science, The Language of Nature: Reassessing the Mathematization of Natural Philosophy in the Seventeenth Century, co-edited by former MCPS Director, Ken Waters, Residential Fellows Geoff Gorham and Ed Slowik, and Ben Hill (Western U.).

HOPOS 2016
MCPS hosted the 11th biennial meeting of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science (HOPOS). At the end of June, ~150 scholars from all over the world converged on the University of Minnesota campus. In addition to keynote addresses and thematic sessions, the first international exhibit of The Vienna Circle: Exact Thinking in Demented Times occurred at the conference. Herbert Feigl, founding MCPS director, was a member of the Vienna Circle before emigrating to the US prior to WWII.
As part of the grant project *From Biological Practice to Scientific Metaphysics*, MCPS hosted Marc Ereshefsky (University of Calgary). More than 70 faculty, graduate students, and postdocs attended his public lecture: “Science & Metaphysics: Lessons from Microbiology.”

Friday, February 26, 2016
3:35 pm
275 Nicholson Hall
(refreshments at 3:15 pm)

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