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Utility spots: science policy, knowledge transfer and the politics of proximity

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I regained the motivation to persist in my doctoral studies at the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome (KNIR). Frits van Oostrom, with some help of the ‘Feestclub’ (you know who you are!), created an ideal atmosphere for reflecting on academic life.

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Curriculum Vitae

Jorrit Smit was born on November 9, 1988 in Arnhem, the Netherlands. In 2011, he completed the interdisciplinary bachelor programme Bèta-Gamma at the Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA), where he majored in physical chemistry. During his bachelor Jorrit was elected to the faculty student council which he served as chairman. In 2011, he obtained a Thomas More scholarship for an additional year of philosophy study at KU Leuven. Between 2012 and 2015, Jorrit followed the History and Philosophy of Science research master at Utrecht University. As part of this programme he spent a semester abroad at the History Department of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and conducted an internship at the Rathenau Institute, a science policy think tank in The Hague. He obtained his MSc degree *cum laude* with a thesis on the societal value of Ernst Cohen's physical chemistry in the early twentieth century.

In 2015, Jorrit obtained a grant in the PhDs in the Humanities funding scheme of the Dutch Research Council (NWO). At the Institute for Philosophy of Leiden University he set out to study the history and philosophy of science policies that aim to stimulate the societal value of scientific research. During this PhD trajectory, he was a visiting scholar at the Science and Technology Studies department at University College London (UCL) and PhD-representative in the board of the national graduate school in science studies (WTMC). He also commenced editorial activities at public philosophy magazine *Wijsgerig Perspectief* and history of science blog *Shells and Pebbles* that continue to this day.

As of September 2020, Jorrit is a postdoctoral researcher in the project Evaluating Societal Impact at Erasmus University Rotterdam. Results of his research have appeared in *Studium, Science and Public Policy* and *Research Evaluation*, as well as in edited volumes published at Routledge and Verloren.

