

Abstract for the 7th Norwegian Conference in the History of Science

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Paper care. The *genre* of animal research applications as good science and good governance.

This paper seeks to provide a better understanding of the relationship between care practices and legal requirements of accountability and trust in animal research. In Norway, which forms the empirical focus of this paper, legislation have in recent years placed increased emphasis on the processes of accountability that finds place *before* animal research is initiated. That is, at the stage when scientists *apply* to the governmental ethical committee for approval to perform specific animal research projects. In this paper, I explore how care is performed in the bureaucratic context, *on paper*, and how care is enacted by and through the technicalities and contexts of an application system. The focus on exercises of care on paper provides insights into the techniques of governance that make scientists and experimental science accountable, and that aims to ensure public transparency and virtual witnessing of animal experiments. Drawing upon a combination of STS resources across care studies, valuation studies and genre theory, I trace the emergence of the current licensing system in Norway and identify its characteristics. I argue that accountability in animal research in the bureaucratic context has emerged as a specific genre of care, which again affects the culture of care in animal research in specific ways.

Key words: Bureaucratic texts, genre, care, good science, good governance