

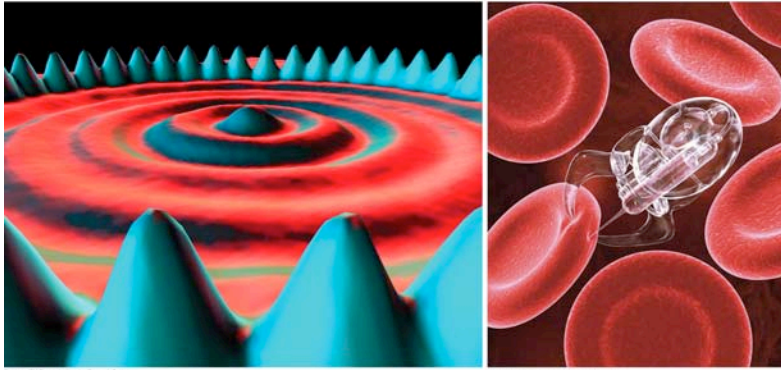
From Laboratory to Society: Developing an Informed Approach to Nanoscale Science and Technology

NSF NIRT Grant 0304448

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Imaging and Imagining Nanoscience and Engineering



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MARCH 3 -7, 2004

in computer modeling, leaders in the nanotechnology business, visionaries, science-fiction authors, artists, historians of science, and philosophers. In presentations and discussions they addressed such questions as: How do scientists generate and use images of individual atoms and molecules at the nanoscale? How do images and visionary narratives inspire scientists and engineers, writers and visual artists, and the broader public? How do images and stories about nanotechnology change as they make their way from science to the public via mass media? What moral and political messages do they convey? Based on the successful commencement of this dialogue, a follow-up conference will take place in Bielefeld, Germany in May 2005.

In addition, USC NIRT members Davis Baird, Alfred Nordmann, and Joachim Schummer edited and published the one of the first books devoted to the societal interactions of nanotechnology, titled *Discovering the Nanoscale* (Amsterdam: IOS Press, 2004). Based on two conferences, one at the University of South Carolina in March 2003 and the second in Darmstadt, Germany in October 2003, this collection of articles stems from sustained investigations of nanoscience and nanotechnologies and of the contexts that are shaping their development.

Lastly, a major effort was made to reach out beyond academia through the South Carolina Citizens' School of Nanotechnology. This "School" consists of a sequence of six meetings, each led by a different member of the USC NanoCenter, coordinated by NIRT member, Chris Toumey. The school was held in both spring and fall 2004 and plans are currently underway to travel the school to other locations in South Carolina.