In keeping with a widespread contemporary trend towards social rationalization, a growing Verwissenschaftlichung ("scientization") of the political sphere has taken place over the past few decades: science and quantitative measures are increasingly defining and shaping politics. Today, empirical evidence almost always accompanies policy making, and quantification and the use of statistics have become ever more central to the practices of contemporary politics.

The conference takes up the relationship between politics and science in order to analyse how processes of "quantification" and "rationalization" have come to shape our contemporary world. How has this relationship evolved over time, and what are the opportunities and risks of an intensifying interaction between the political and scientific world? Of particular interest is the role played by "numbers" within contemporary education policies, because of their close interrelation with economic, social and cultural policies more generally.

This will be the first in a series of two interconnected conferences organized under the auspices of the interdisciplinary research project “Science, Numbers and Politics”.

For further information on the research project, please consult the project website:
www.haw.uni-heidelberg.de/forschung/win-kolleg/win-politics/welcome.en.html
**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**THURSDAY, 28 APRIL 2016**

13:30  **Reception and Registration**

14:00  **Opening**
   - Welcome Address
   - Introduction
   Markus J. Prutsch/Organizing Committee

15:00  **Coffee Break**

15:30  **Parallel Workshop Sessions (Part 1)**
   - Section I  –  “Historical Genesis”
   - Section II  –  “Politics and Science Today”
   - Section III  –  “Case Study – European Education Policies”

18:00  **Buffet Dinner**

**FRIDAY, 29 APRIL 2016**

09:00  **Parallel Workshop Sessions (Part 2)**
   - Section I  –  “Historical Genesis”
   - Section II  –  “Politics and Science Today”
   - Section III  –  “Case Study – European Education Policies”

12:00  **Coffee Break**

12:30  **Lecture**
   - Volker Sellin (Heidelberg University)

13:30  **Free Afternoon**

17:30  **Lecture**
   - Lars Bo Jakobsen (European Commission – Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency)
   - How Does Evidence Inform European Policy-Making in the Educational Sphere?

**SATURDAY, 30 APRIL 2016**

09:00  **Plenary Session**

12:00  **Coffee Break**

12:30  **Concluding Remarks and Project Outlook**

13:00  **End of Conference**

**Composition of Sections**

**Section I – “Historical Genesis”**
   - **Moderators**
   - Kelly L. Grotke & Stephen Hastings-King
   - **Contributors**
   - Anat Leibler, Bar-Ilan University – The Emergence of the Global Economic Order
   - Kaat Louckx, Ghent University – Population, Territory, and State-istics: “Habitual Residence” in the Census
   - Ida Stamhuis, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam – “What use is it in the long run to resist something that is bound to happen anyway?” Statistics as the Basis of 19th c. Politics

**Section II – “Politics and Science Today”**
   - **Moderators**
   - Kathrine von Graevenitz & Georg von Graevenitz
   - **Contributors**
   - Jean-Guy Prévost, Université du Québec à Montréal – Policies and Politics of Statistical Independence
   - Julia Schubert, Forum Internationale Wissenschaft Bonn – Mapping the Organized Interface of Science and Politics
   - Wolfgang Drechsler, Tallinn University of Technology – Sufficiency Economy, Gross National Happiness, and the Rise of Governance Indicators
   - Amanda Machin, Alexander Ruser & Nico Stehr, Zeppelin University – When do we start counting? Time, Numbers and the Indispensable Illusion of Accuracy in Climate Change Politics and Science
   - Radhika Gorur, Deakin University; Bryan Maddox, University of East Anglia; Estrid Sørensen, Ruhr-University Bochum – PISA for Development: Between Standardization and Re-Contextualization

**Section III – “Case Study – European Education Policies”**
   - **Moderators**
   - Markus J. Prutsch & Lars Lehmann
   - **Contributors**
   - Yuval Vurgan, Knesset Research and Information Center – “Let’s Talk Numbers”: Parliamentary Evidence-Based Policy Advice in Educational Affairs in Light of Political Demand for Quantification – Comparative Analysis
   - Karin Amos & Anne Rohstock, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen – “Smart Me Up”: Scientization, Digital Education Policies and the Optimization of the Self in Late Modern Societies
   - Jörg J. Dötsch, Andrässy University Budapest – Higher Purpose or Economic Reason? A Comparative Study Concerning the Role of Numbers as Guide Values of Recent Education Policy with Focus on Tertiary Education