

The~Hyphen



Newsletter of UWE **Psycho-Social Studies**

Issue 1 (Spring 2015) • In This Issue:

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Welcome to the Newsletter

Welcome to The Hyphen: the first edition of the quarterly newsletter for the psycho-social research theme group of the University of the West of England.

Why 'The Hyphen'? The hyphen between the words *psycho* and *social* can be seen as the signifier of the space between these two milieus. It can also represent connectivity between the members of the group at UWE, old friends and possible new friends beyond UWE. It is an opportunity to meet together, if virtually, and keep updated.

Who is the newsletter for? The newsletter is for all those interested in psycho-social research, including postgraduate students, external practitioners, researchers and UWE academic staff members. It is hoped that the newsletter will support the aim of developing a wider research community with a common interest and allow new students to feel connected with this research community.

What will it include? The plan is to notify readers of events and conferences, to report back on events of interest members have attended, to identify new publications, to provide a link to the Journal of Psycho-social Studies and to include any other contributions of interest received from the readership. Each edition will include a focus on one of the theme members; this time the research theme leader Dr Lita Crociani-Windland makes a contribution. The following editions will feature a student then an external member to balance representation.

The newsletter team includes Dave Green, Jane Woodend, Lita Crociani-Windland and Cathy Warner. We plan to produce the newsletter every 3 months and the next issue (Summer) is due in June 2015.

Any recipient of the newsletter is encouraged to contribute. Please send any items for future issues to Catherine.Warner@uwe.ac.uk

It will be possible to view stored newsletters on the Psycho-Social Studies page of the following host website: <http://fivevalleyscounselling.co.uk/Psychosocial-Studies>

Social Science Research Group and Psycho-Social Studies at UWE

Following a restructuring of research centres at UWE, Psycho-Social Studies is now a named theme within an expanded Social Science Research Group. As this is a new arrangement updated website pages are still in progress. In the meantime this newsletter is aimed at making our presence visible and provide a forum. The newsletter will also bring you up to date with developments in shaping our theme.

Letter from the research theme leader

Dear members ,

As part of the launch of our Psycho-Social newsletter it seems appropriate to introduce myself as the new leader of the Psycho-Social Studies theme at UWE. My connection to Psycho-Social Studies has what now feels like a fairly long history. I came to UWE in the 1990s having heard of this innovative Masters programme in Group Relation and Society. Little did I know how it would change my life, but it did: it gave me an enthusiasm for the particular approach, which enriched my understanding of previous professional experience in specialist education and spurred me to change direction in moving from educational management to academic work. Having completed it with Distinction and a prize, I was offered a PhD studentship. This coincided with the founding of the Centre for Psycho-Social Studies at UWE, so I was one of its first doctoral students and this also marked the start of my teaching at UWE.



My doctoral research was published as a book titled *Festivals, Affect and Identity*, available as a Google book at the following link should you wish to peruse it http://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/0857289985?_encoding=UTF8&isInframe=1&n=266239&ref=dp_proddesc_0&s=books&showDetailProductDesc=1#iframe-wrapper The book received excellent endorsements and has been positively reviewed in three different academic journals.

Publications since include a chapter in the now classic *Researching Beneath the Surface* edited by Clarke and Hoggett and several peer reviewed articles that range from the more cultural and anthropological orientation of the book to political, pedagogical and care concerns more recently, reconnecting with previous professional experience in care, education and disability.

What unites and provides continuity in relation to what may seem very different topics is the psycho-social lens by which they are viewed and the focus on affective dynamics. It may seem immodest to state this, but over time I have seen my particular approach to psycho-social studies founded on aspects of continental philosophy allied to a particular strand of psycho-analytic thinking and critical theory being picked up and extended by others in the field. Considering that, even by the time of my book publication, this was seen as an adventurous theoretical framework, I feel gratified in having been at the forefront of it and been part of such an exciting new field of studies from its early days.

For more on teaching and publications go to my UWE profile:

<http://people.uwe.ac.uk/Pages/person.aspx?accountname=campus%5Cil-crocianiwin#Article>

I am really pleased and excited about having the opportunity to renew and grow a community of practice and research as well as an intellectual community around Psycho-Social Studies. Many people have already given their time and energy, aside from this newsletter there are research bids, publication plans already in process, so much good work and good will to make this a successful area of studies.

Dr Lita Crociani-Windland March 2015

The Association for Psychosocial Studies (APS)

Although Psychosocial Studies has generated an informal UK network since at least 2007, only since 2014 has this been pulled together and formally constituted as The Association for Psychosocial Studies.

This is a membership organization (officially a charity) the overall aims of which are to encourage and facilitate the development of the psychosocial discipline by bringing about exchanges of ideas and knowledge in the field. The APS directly organizes regular conferences, for example their annual conference, but also assists with generating seminars and workshops in the subject field of psychosocial studies – e.g. forthcoming seminars on psychosocial research methods and on climate change. Additionally APS links with The Journal of Psychosocial Studies (see above) and the Palgrave book series ‘Studies in the Psychosocial’, edited by Prof Stephen Frosh, Prof Wendy Hollway and Dr. Peter Redman. The Association, in its official capacity as a ‘Learned Scholarly Society’, makes submissions on behalf of the subject area to appropriate bodies, for example in relation to the inclusion of the discipline in the next REF, its role in BSA etc. Currently there is chair, Prof Sasha Roseneil from Birkbeck’s Department of Psychosocial Studies, a board (on which UWE is represented by Liz Frost) and the usual association structures – memberships, events, etc.

But what is important for UWE’s Psychosocial Theme is that National and International networks connected up through APS, allowing the development of ideas, projects, research events and any other scholarly activity that we want to actualize.

What do you want to do in/with psychosocial studies? Can (how can) APS help you with that?

Do join and do get in touch and do submit your ideas to the APS, via the website or to our rep: Elizabeth.Frost@uwe.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.psychosocial-studies-association.org/>

Psycho-social academic journals at UWE

The Journal of Psychosocial Studies needs you!

Psychosocial studies as a discipline has had its own online journal since 2004 (<http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/hls/research/understandingsocialpractices/jps.aspx>).

Originally established by Professor Simon Clarke, it is still co-edited from UWE by Liz Frost, Associate Professor of Social Work, and Helen Lucey, a Senior Lecturer in Critical Psychology, from Bath University. The active editorial team also comprises Lita Crociani-Windland, Senior Lecturer and UWE Psycho-social theme leader, David Jones, Reader in Psychosocial Studies from University of East London, and Tamara Bibby, Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Education, University of London.

The team aim to produce 2 editions of the Journal per year, which have, up until now, been highly eclectic. Where else could one read about ‘What’s a girl to do when her mode of production and the potency of the men who ran it are Gone With the Wind? - the historical materialist melodrama of Scarlet O’Hara’ (R Chernomas, 2011 Vol 5 (2), and in the same volume, ‘Is the holocaust traumatic?’ (F. Alford). Now the Journal is also planning themed editions. Over the next 12 months we hope to produce an edition based on the papers given at The Association for Psychosocial Studies Annual conference, and also special editions on Eating Disorders, and Psychosocial Studies and Social Work. But to stay cutting edge, eclectic, erudite and interdisciplinary, the Journal needs more contributions. This might be in relation to special editions – what you are interested in putting together, or in relation to individual papers. Are you writing something that we could publish? Like the whole subject area, the journal is committed to blurring disciplinary boundaries. So if you have an interest in psychosocial approaches to the arts, or health, or religion or philosophy, or really psychosocial approaches to just about any subject, the editors would love to have a look. Students welcome.

Details of how to submit your papers are on the website, at <http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/hls/research/jps/publicationpolicy.aspx> and if you want an informal discussion about ideas or early drafts please get in touch by e-mail : -Helen Lucey - H.Lucey@bath.ac.uk and/or Liz Frost - Elizabeth.Frost@uwe.ac.uk

Organisational and Social Dynamics

Organisational and Social Dynamics is a forum for the publication of theoretical and applied papers from psychoanalytic, group relations, and systems perspectives that address emerging issues in organisations and societies throughout the world.

It aims to sustain a creative tension between scientific rigour and popular appeal, both developing conversations with the professional and social scientific world and opening up these conversations to practitioners and reflective citizens everywhere. We wish to attract manuscripts from contributors who are aware of their own values, suppositions and assumptions, the influence of counter-transference in their work, whatever form it takes, and the ability to connect the internal world of individuals and groups with societal and global processes.

In addition to scientific papers, *Organisational and Social Dynamics* also seeks to attract accounts of interventions, in the shape of reports of action research projects or case studies of consultation projects; soundings, and writing inspired by events that offer perspectives on contemporary affairs and societies. It will also contain sections on speaking out, which will provide a space for personal ideas and polemic; and, dialogue, which will provide opportunities for differing views to be positioned together.

Reviews will provide a space for the review of books, plays, art and other cultural productions or events that are considered to be of interest as a result of the insights they provide into organisational and social dynamics.

Dr Nadine Riad Tchelebi

Senior Lecturer in Organisation Studies

Editor (UK) *Organisational & Social Dynamics*

Bristol Leadership Centre

Postgraduate studies

Psycho-Social Studies Doctoral Programme at UWE

The PhD Candidates in Psycho-Social Studies, many of them from abroad, meet for two days in Bristol twice a year, in May and November. It is a unique opportunity to share work in progress, new conceptual ideas, data analysis, to have a sounding audience and explore the researcher's role in a role analysis setting. A guest speaker contributes adding a different perspective and stimuli; for example Louise Grisoni (Researching Poetically: The poetics of work-life balance), Paul Hoggett (Developments in psycho-social methodologies), Sue Jervis (Learning From Experience: Gender in psycho-social research) and Anne-Marie Cummins (Parenting calls forth'childing). It is a fundamental moment and space to get together as a community of practice and to address the challenges of a PhD journey. These meetings also create a closer relationship with the faculty, the Social Science Research Group and UWE in general.

The invited speaker session is open to anyone interested. The next invited speaker session will be Wednesday 20th May 2-4.30pm and our speaker is Dr Nadine Tchelebi from the Business School and editor of the journal *Organisational and Social Dynamics*.

MSc Psycho-Social Studies

Sophie Savage is a current student on our Masters who has the following to say about our programme:

'The MSc Psycho-Social Studies at UWE is a truly incredible course and I feel privileged to be a part of the journey the group are on to develop a rich and complex understanding of the world we live in. There is a variety of passionate lecturers who deliver thought provoking and challenging sessions all of which can be applied to your specific area of study. I particularly work with young people with liver disease in transition between child and adult services and I recall moments from each lecture that I can apply directly to my work with the aid of my peers and lecturers; from discussion in relation to neuroscience and hormones with Nigel Williams relating to use of steroids to treat hepatitis, to Liz Frost challenging what identity is or if it exists, questions that are pertinent to those in process of transition. The course is held together by Lita Crociani-Windland who provides a support to the individual needs of the students, and encourages each of us to pursue our goals of becoming psycho-social practitioners. From a personal standpoint this course fits perfectly along my academic pathway to a future PhD and career as a psycho-social researcher with an interest in exploring quality of life issues.'

News

John Diamond, Chief Executive for Mulberry Bush School and head of the New National Centre for Therapeutic Residential and Foster Care (see also below) has agreed to become the external practice advisor for the Psycho-social studies. An external academic advisor is still sought.

UWE/Mulberry Bush partnership Foundation Degree accepted by DfE

Psycho-social research theme members have been active in the area of therapeutic residential and foster care leading to a very successful partnership with the Mulberry Bush School in Oxfordshire which has seen the creation of a National Award winning Foundation Degree and a new National centre for Therapeutic Residential and Foster Care, launched last academic year.

One of the initial aims of the National Centre was to raise the standard and relevance of reflective models of training for all those working 'close in' with emotionally troubled children and young people, and to include recognition of Foundation Degrees in 'Therapeutic Work with Children and Young People', as high quality and flexible 'work based' training. You will see that on pages 25/26 of the recent DfE children's homes regulations amendments, that they are accepting the foundation degree in therapeutic work as a Level 5 training:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/339545/Children s homes regulations amendments 2014.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/339545/Children_s_homes_regulations_amendments_2014.pdf)

This excellent news is largely a result of the collective lobbying efforts of our members Claire Cameron (IOE), Jonathan Stanley (ICHA and NCERCC), Lita Crociani-Windland, Billie Oliver (UWE) and John Diamond attending the DfE children's homes workforce reforms meetings across 2013/14, to argue for the fdA as a training that can be tailored to the specific 'statements of purpose' of residential care establishments for children and young people.

The Foundation degree partnership is led by Anne-Marie Cummins, who should be congratulated also for her part in helping to create such a valuable and now officially recognised Award along with Mulberry Bush staff.

John Diamond

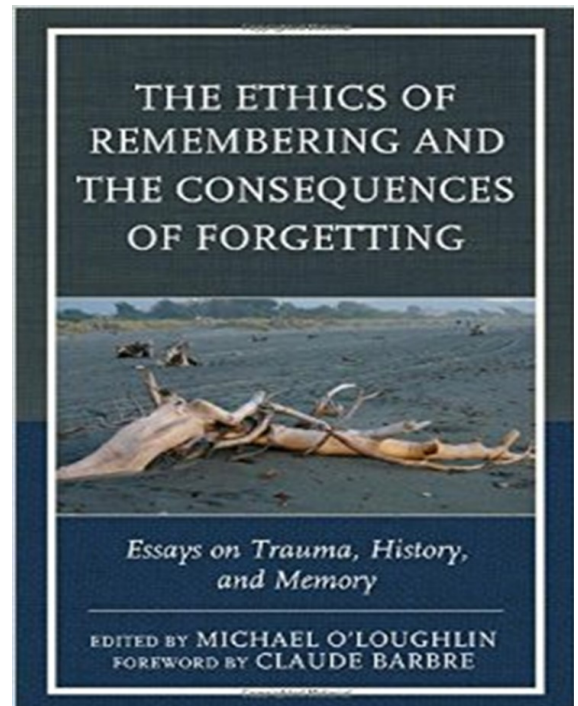
New Publication

Nigel Williams' chapter on intergenerational dynamics has just been published in *The Ethics of Remembering and the Consequences of Forgetting*.

The new collection edited by Prof Michael O'Loughlin of Adelphi University, New York brings together academics in the field of psychosocial studies in a study of intergenerational trauma. Its reach is international global and offers a wealth of insights into an under-researched and vital topic for our times.

More details are available here:

<http://rowman.com/ISBN/9781442231870>



Upcoming conferences

Radical Hope and Cultural Tragedy

A conference to highlight the complex pressures within our collective mind in the face of dramatic climate change.

Saturday 18th April 2015 9.45-6.30

Bristol Folk House,

Park Street,

Bristol.

Bristol is designated European Green Capital for 2015.

Conference Fee: £50

Members: £45

Concessions £35

For applications and concession details go to <http://www.climatepsychologyalliance.org>

Motherhood and creative practice: Maternal structures in creative work

June 1-2, 2015, Centre for Media and Culture Research, School of Arts and Creative Industries, London South Bank University

Full Conference Early Bird (by 1 May) £120.00

Full Conference £180.00

Full Conference Postgraduate/Unwaged £65.00

Day Rate Monday 1st June only £80.00

Registration for conference will open online on 20 February 2015.

<https://motherhoodandcreativepractice.wordpress.com/>

Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society

Call for Papers

2015 APCS Annual Conference

Border Tensions: Troubling Psychoanalysis

Keynote Speaker: Sudhir Kakar

Opening Keynote Presentation Thursday, October 22: Culture/Psyche

Rutgers University Continuing Education Conference Center, New Brunswick, NJ

October 22-24, 2015

Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words and will be included in the program booklet and published on our website. Review criteria will include relevance to the APCS mission and program theme, and appropriate grounding from a theoretical perspective. Submissions are due by June 30, 2015.

On April 1, 2015 we will open our web-based submission process and you will be able to submit a proposal any time between April 1 and midnight on June 30, 2015.

Please check our website at www.apcsweb.net for updated submission details, which will be posted