

Curious Utopias: Large and Small Blueprints for Human Society
Friday 6th September- Saturday 7th September 2019
University of Oslo, Georg Sverdrups hus

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Friday 6th September 2019

0830-0900: Coffee and registration for workshop participants
PLACE: MØTEROM (WORKSHOP VENUE)

0915-10.45 - KEYNOTE LECTURE by Professor James Ferguson, University of Stanford
"Rightful Shares and Claims of Presence: Distributive Politics beyond Labour and Citizenship"

10.45-11.15 COFFEE BREAK
(MØTEROM 1)

11.15-11.45 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
On utopian impulses, scalar imaginaries, and socio-political experiments
Ruth Prince (University of Oslo)

11.45-13.15 SESSION ONE - TECHNO-UTOPIAS

Chair: Richard Rottenburg (WITS Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand)

Knowledge/Seizure. Data, Debt, & the Zero Balance Economy

Kevin P. Donovan (University of Edinburgh) and Emma Park (New School for Social Research)

Leapfrogging all the way to utopia: New digital technologies and the public good in Africa

Thomas Neumark (University of Oslo)

Money for Nothing, Work for Love: Universal Basic Income, Post-Work Utopias, and the Ongoing Centrality of Wage Labour

Liz Fouksman (University of Oxford)

DISCUSSION

13.15-1415: LUNCH

1415-1545 SESSION TWO - DATA, DEVICES, DESIGNS

Chair: Katerini Storeng (University of Oslo)

Shacktopia: The Meantime Future of Humanitarian Design

Peter Redfield (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

Policy as Experiment. Towards an analysis of the role of critique and feedback loops for iterative learning

Ursula Rao (University of Leipzig)

The diagnostic gap: devices/networks/coverage'

Alice Street (University of Edinburgh)

DISCUSSION

15.45-1615: COFFEE

16.15-1730: SESSION THREE - ECOLOGIES/BIOLOGIES

Chair: Knut Nustad (University of Oslo)

The Nectar of Life: Agrarian ferments and the utopian impulse of Natural Farming (India)

Daniel Münster (University of Cologne/University of Heidelberg)

Immunitary Utopias and Hepatitis B Environments

Noémi Tousignant (University College London)

DISCUSSION

1900: Dinner

Saturday 7th September 2019

09.30-12.00: SESSION FOUR – CITIZENSHIP

Chair: Ursula Münster, University of Oslo

"Financialisation without welfare, Identification without citizenship: biometric programmes in contemporary Nigeria."

Keith Breckenridge (University of Witwatersrand)

The Utopia of Global Citizenship: Selling passports in Cyprus

Theodoros Rakopoulos (University of Oslo)

Coffee break

Hopeful living: citizenship, resilience and the crisis of healthcare disparities in Kenya

Victoria Jacinta Muinde (University of Oslo)

A politics of numbers: Registering citizens for Universal Health Coverage in Kenya

Ruth J. Prince (University of Oslo)

DISCUSSION

1200-1330: Lunch

13.30-15.00: SESSION FOUR - ABSENT UTOPIAS?

Chair: Ruth Prince (University of Oslo)

Achieving universal health coverage in rural Zambia: utopian and dystopian visions in the development of a community health worker programme

James Wintrup (University of Oslo)

'When People Eat Shit': Cholera and the Collapse of Zimbabwe's Public Health Infrastructure

Simukai Chigudu (University of Oxford)

Absent Utopias in Ghanaian healthcare: Independence, Alma Ata, and the Information Age, 1957-2019

David Bannister (University of Oslo)

DISCUSSION

Coffee break

15.00-1600: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION – CURIOUS UTOPIAS

Please note: **Professor Richard Rottenburg**, (WITS Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand) will act as discussant.
For each session we will also allocate **discussants** from the presenters/participants.
Workshop papers will be circulated in advance among presenters/discussants.

Participants

Presenters:

1. Keith Breckenridge
2. Noemi Tousignant
3. Theodoros Rakopoulos
4. Peter Redfield
5. Kevin Donovan
6. Simuaki Chigudu
7. Alice street
8. Ursula Rao
9. James Ferguson
10. Richard Rottenburg
11. Victoria Muinde
12. David Bannister
13. Tom Neumark
14. James Wintrup
15. Ruth Jane Prince
16. Daniel Münster
17. Liz Fouksman

Chairs:

Richard Rottenburg (WITS Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand) rottenburg@lost-research-group.org

Knut Nustad (Social Anthropology, University of Oslo) k.g.nustad@sai.uio.no

Ursula Münster (Environmental Humanities, University of Oslo),
ursula.munster@ikos.uio.no

Katerini Storeng (SUM – Centre for Development and the Environment, UiO),
katerini.storeng@sum.uio.no

Discussants:

Richard Rottenburg (WITS Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand) rottenburg@lost-research-group.org

(Discussants for each workshop session are to be allocated from among the workshop presenters)