CuSP/CUPSYNET Meeting

The Open University, Milton Keynes
May 9th – 10th, 2022

Dear participant, we are excited to welcome you to our joint CuSP/CUPSY-Network meeting in Milton Keynes! It will be the first in-conference event for many of us since the pandemic started, and I am excited to share a great and diverse line-up of speakers.

Some general information:
The event will take place in the Hub Theatre, at the Open University campus in Milton Keynes. Please see attached map. The easiest way to get to the Hub Theatre is to go to the Berrill Building Reception on arrival. The receptionist will direct you to the Hub Theatre.

For those of you staying overnight, the hotel is:
Hotel Name: Delta Marriott Hotel, Milton Keynes
Hotel Address: Timbold Drive, Kents Hill, Milton
Keynes, MK7 6HL

The hotel is walking distance from the venue.

Lunch will be provided on both days at the venue, and there will be an evening meal on the 9th taking place at the Delta Marriott Hotel. This is the same address as the overnight stay venue.

Contact information:
If, for some reason, you are unable to find the venue (or get lost on the beautiful campus!), please contact myself, or James Munro:
Sandra Obradovic: +447543140759
James Munro: +44 7746719077

Event Programme

Time	Title	Presenter
9th May		
10.00-11.00	**ARRIVALS (Coffee served)**	
11.00-11.30	Welcome	Prof. Paul Stenner
11.30-12.15	*A Shot in the Dark?: A study of Covid-19 vaccination argumentation in Germany*	Prof. Brady Wagoner
12.15-13.00	*Understanding and Resisting Bullying': The application of critical discursive psychology to the development of a school-based antibullying intervention.*	Dr. Karan Hagan
13.00-14.30	**LUNCH BREAK**	
14.30-15.15	*'Conversations about Vygotsky and art during troubled times'*	Prof. Paul Stenner & Prof. Tania Zittoun
15.15-16.00	*TBC*	Dr. Johanna Motzkau
16.00-16.30	**COFFEE BREAK**	
16.30-18.00	**CuSP Annual Lecture:** *Raising Antigones: Societal thinking and human development in contexts of adversity*	Prof. Sandra Jovchelovitch
18.30	**DINNER**	

10th May

Time	Title	Presenter
09.00-10.00	**ARRIVALS (Coffee Served)**	
10.00-10.30	*LGBQ Individuals on their Pathways to Leadership: expectations and experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer leaders in the UK*	Shannon O'Rourke
10.30-11.00	*The 'Datafication' of the Citizen: An Examination of 'Expert' Constructions of Privacy*	Emma Brice
11.00-11.30	*Is there anyone in there? Caregivers and professionals' mutual positioning to take care of vegetative state patients*	Edoardo Zulato
11.30-12.00	*Beyond body talk: Mapping ways of exploring embodied experience*	Tijana Nikitovic
12.00-13.30	**LUNCH BREAK**	
13.30-14.00		Ruth O'Collier-Large
14.00-14.30	*Group processes and identity leadership in mobilization for social change in Czechoslovakia's 1989 'Velvet Revolution'*	Klara Jurstakova
14.30-15.00	*TBC*	Marketa Machkova
15.00-15.30	*Closing remarks*	Dr. Sandra Obradovic

A Shot in the Dark?: A study of Covid-19 vaccination argumentation in Germany.

Presenters: Brady Wagoner, Aalborg University

Abstract: This presentation explores people's mixed motivations and concerns about being vaccinated against COVID-19 through the pandemic in Germany. Based on a large national representative survey (N=933), 40 interviewees were selected to elaborate on their vaccination willingness among other topics. Results reveal the mobilization of multiple arguments for and against COVID-19 vaccination, both between people and within the same person. After outlining general trends in argumentation, selected case studies are analysed to illustrate how these arguments play out as a dialogical process. The presentation concludes by nuancing the notion of an 'infodemic,' where people are in our own 'information silos' and 'echo chambers'. Instead, the findings point to people's way of managing a complex array of different arguments and information, embedded within an ecology of social relationships.

Understanding and Resisting Bullying': The application of critical discursive psychology to the development of a school-based antibullying intervention.

Presenter: Karen Hagan, The Open University

Abstract: Applied research is a core feature of discursive psychology both in terms of its focus on topics of everyday life and its focus on 'the world as it happens'. The 'critical' strands expose practices of social injustice, highlighting the discursive reproduction of ideological positions that typically exist in abusive and bullying relationships. 'Understanding and Resisting Bullying' is a programme of six workshops which has been designed specifically to help children and young people understand and resist bullying. It applies theory, analysis and findings from critical discursive psychological research to an antibullying intervention. The programme was approved for British Psychological Society CPD. The pilot cycle and its evaluation will be discussed in relation to further development of, and research into, the intervention.

Conversations about Vygotsky and art during troubled times

Presenters: Paul Stenner, The Open University & Tania Zittoun, University of Neuchatel

Abstract: Tania Zittoun and Paul Stenner will talk about their collaboration when writing an article called 'Vygotsky's Tragedy' (circulated in advance). Why is Vygotsky's work on art particularly relevant during today's troubled times? How do today's troubled times relate to those

that Vygotsky lived through? How can art help people to make sense out of disruptions in their lives? How can we collaborate as social and cultural psychologists in a context where crisis appears to follow crisis?

Title: TBC

Presenter: Johanna Motzkau, The Open University

Abstract: TBC

CuSP Annual Lecture (9ᵗʰ May)

Raising Antigones: societal thinking and human development in contexts of adversity

Presenter: Professor Sandra Jovchelovitch, London School of Economics

Brief Abstract: In this exploratory talk I will reflect on the lines that link the plight of Antigone to the poor of Latin America in an attempt to outline a socio-cultural psychology of human development under contextual adversity.

Biography: Sandra Jovchelovitch is Professor of Social Psychology at the London School of Economics where she directs the MSc in Social and Cultural Psychology. Her latest project under the auspices of Research Council UK and Minciencias examines mental health and human development in communities heavily affected by political violence, poverty and stigma in Colombia (RCUK-Minciencias Colombia). Books include Underground Sociabilities: culture, identity and resistance in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro (UNESCO, 2013) and Knowledge in Context: representations, community and culture (Classics Edition, Routledge, 2019).

Presentation Abstracts (10ᵗʰ May)

LGBQ Individuals on their Pathways to Leadership: expectations and experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer leaders in the UK

Presenter: Shannon O'Rourke, The Open University

Abstract: What expectations are placed on individuals that hold certain marginalized identities to think beyond and challenge existing realities? This qualitative investigation explores the leadership experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer (LBGQ) people in the UK (inclusive of trans and non-binary folks who identify as LGBQ). Queering leadership may be understood as both an intellectual and embodied project; it may be both contemplated and enacted in everyday practice. While this work focuses on sexuality, other social identities such as gender identity, race/ethnicity, and class all play into leadership experiences. Interrogating how different identities and experiences manifest in leadership can reveal expectations and norms that LGBQ people come up against. Previous research with LGBTQ people in leadership revealed how participants felt a need to be "the right kind of queer" (Lee 2020); they felt pressure to exist in a way that would lead to acceptance. While having LGBQ people in leadership positions may challenge heteronormativity, we need to consider how this may be replaced by homonormativity and the degree to which people are able to express their identities and experiences in the workplace and in leadership positions. It is important to consider how LGBQ people in leadership are expected to bring about transformation. Do lived experiences of being LGBQ equip these individuals with a certain consciousness that will bring about change? How do we expect individuals to become transformational leaders? Drawing on both literature and preliminary research findings, this presentation will explore both expectations and experiences of LGBQ leaders.

The 'Datafication' of the Citizen: An Examination of 'Expert' Constructions of Privacy

Presenter: Emma Brice, The Open University

Abstract: Developments in technology coupled with the increased use of 'big data' for political purposes, mean that we are living through a shift in how privacy is understood and how it relates to citizenship. The datafication of citizens, through information online, enables potential influence to be exerted through political and consumer micro-targeting, but it also has ramifications for the public and private sphere - how we understand ourselves as individuals within society. Despite recent revelations, particularly the case of Cambridge Analytica and Facebook, regarding the use of our data, there has been little public outcry in the UK. In order to investigate this my research looks at how the concept of data privacy is understood by

laypeople, in corporate and government documents and by experts in technology and privacy. This presentation focuses on the analysis conducted on the interviews with technology and privacy experts. I have taken a critical discursive approach to the analysis of the data which enables me to consider notions of data privacy as socially constructed rather than having a concrete definition that exists outside of interaction. Looking at how experts talk about data privacy allowed me to investigate how notions of privacy are understood by actors who are especially involved and consequential. The analysis focused on the many lenses through which privacy can be viewed, how ideas about data collection and data privacy are being justified, how current cultural valuations of privacy are relied on and the possible impact of that on the conduct of individual citizens.

Is there anyone in there? Caregivers and professionals' mutual positioning to take care of vegetative state patients

Presenter: Edoardo Zulato, University of Milano-Bicocca / London School of Economics

Abstract
The vegetative state is a condition in which a person is wakeful without being aware. To understand a patient who can be considered neither alive nor dead, caregivers and professionals re-define traditional identities, roles, and practices. By drawing on broader research on the social representations of the vegetative state, the current presentation will show how caregivers and practitioners positioned the patient and themselves within the institutional context of five nursing homes in Lombardy. Discourse analysis was conducted on 65 semi-structured interviews with 35 caregivers (sons, partners, parents) and 30 professionals (health, mental health professionals, and social workers). As a result, three different interpretative repertoires to position the patient were identified: an organic, an interactional, and a possibilistic one. Their encounter both leads to disagreement and convergence. In particular, by taking each other's perspective, professionals and caregivers might converge toward the common ground of balanced hope, where the possibility for patients' awareness is neither fostered nor denied. In this space of possibilities, caregivers find a justification for their monitoring and patient stimulation activity and take on the role of spokesperson for the patient. This common ground allows them to communicate, justify their reciprocal action and acknowledge their roles and expertise in taking care of the patient.

Beyond body talk: Mapping ways of exploring embodied experience

Presenter: Tijana Nikitovic, University of Belgrade

Abstract: Starting from a sociocultural perspective, my thesis aims to explore social constructions of the female body, as well as young women's embodied experiences in everyday life. To this end, we combine a discursive and phenomenological approach in analysis. Subjectivity is therefore understood as a process of co-construction of the individual at the intersection of sociocultural

environment, materiality and the lived body. Sociocultural psychology provides valuable resources for understanding the ways in which individuals are mediated by culture and discourse. However, it has more difficulties in tackling material conditions that elude discourse, as well as aspects of human experience that are preverbal and prereflexive. Hence, there is a need for creative research methods and techniques that can empirically explore these implicit aspects of (embodied) experience. After presenting several strategies for exploring embodiment (e.g., ethnography, walking interview, photo elicitation), the question of alternative methodologies will be opened.

An Appreciation of Nonspeaking Autistic People's Experiences employing Fractions of the Lifeworld within a Descriptive Phenomenological Framework

Presenter: Ruth Collier-Large, The Open University

Abstract: Questioning both the terminology used regarding autism and its medicalised roots, this presentation will upend many assumptions surrounding the abilities of non-speaking autistic peoples and shed light upon alternative communication techniques that help to 'give them a voice'. Appraising the work of both nonspeaking autistic self-advocates utilising technology to communicate and research carried out in the field of autism as a motor control impairment, examples will be highlighted of previously unheard autistic voices.
I will briefly critique the backlash from the Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) industry in relation to the cognitive abilities of many nonspeaking autistic people. I will also give a description of using Fractions of the Lifeworld for drawing out thematic aspects of experiential data within my methodological framework.

Group processes and identity leadership in mobilization for social change in Czechoslovakia's 1989 'Velvet Revolution'

Presenter: Klara Jurstakova* (with Dr Evangelos Ntontis), Canterbury Christ Church University

Abstract: The Velvet Revolution (1989) was a nationwide protest movement that contributed to the fall of the repressive regime of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, resulting in social and political change. Leadership played a crucial role in building and promoting shared identity. The key aspect of identity leadership is the ability to shape social identity rhetorically and practically. However, the practical dimensions of identity leadership remain the least investigated. We examined the practical aspects of leadership to understand leaders' strategic decisions about designing collective events and creating spaces for identity affirmation. A reflexive thematic analysis of interviews with 14 leaders of the Velvet Revolution of 1989 in Czechoslovak Socialist Republic was conducted. We found that leaders strategically designed every element of the mass events (i.e., the space, selection of speakers, group symbols, and group practices) to embody shared social identity and promote peaceful norms and solidarity, while accounting for the

repressive nature of the regime. Through these decisions, leaders sought to widen mobilization, increase the visibility of the movement and give agency to the followers. Our findings extend the social identity leadership approach by showing that leaders were consciously aware of these tools and actively used them to achieve goals. Thus, the practical dimensions of identity leadership can play a key role in creating mass events that allow for effective creation and expression of identity, especially in repressive regimes.

TBC

Presenter: Marketa Machkova, University of Neuchatel

Abstract: TBC