

STACS RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 No 2 (Spring/Summer 2013)

New Research Centre for STaCS

We are delighted to announce that the new Centre for Community Engagement Research, (CCER), has been provisionally approved by the College, pending formal ratification at Academic Board at the next session. The Centre is the outcome of a year long participatory process of community engagement led by Dr Roger Green, who will be the Centre's first director, and has four areas of activity: matching STaCS students' research projects (especially MA dissertations) with identified community research needs; knowledge and skills exchange events between Goldsmiths academics, practitioners and community partners; research partnerships and joint bids; and community engagement consultancy inside and outside the College. Tom Henri is the Centre's Deputy Director with a particular lead on communications, using social media to engage communities of interest online as well as a range of geographically located and other community settings. Although community engagement is the focus, all three professional disciplines in the department are key to the vision and contested and varying ideas of community inherent to each area will be a central interest to the work. If you have ideas for community engagement projects and initiatives and would like to discuss them further, contact Roger Green or Tom Henri at r.green@gold.ac.uk and t.henri@gold.ac.uk

Equality and Human Rights Commission and Religious Literacy

The Faiths & Civil Society Unit hosts the national Religious Literacy Leadership Programme, directed by Prof Dinham. In October 2012 the programme was commissioned by the EHRC to develop their expertise and engagement on issues of religion or belief. This category joined race, gender, disability, sexual orientation and age as a 'protected characteristic' in the Equality Act 2010, which outlaws discrimination on grounds of religion or belief in the provision of services and in employment. Many public bodies have struggled to engage well with religion or belief identities after a century of public secularism, especially in public and professional services, and this project was aimed at improving the quality of debate and conversation in this area. Prof Dinham worked with Martha Shaw, Matthew Francis, and Jennifer Mayo-Deman. More than 100 leaders from upwards of 70 employer organisations, umbrella bodies, trades unions,

lobby groups and faith settings took part in a series of four roundtable dialogues on themes including 'The real religious landscape of Britain', 'Religion and the media', 'Balancing competing interests', and 'Religious diversity in the workplace and service provision'. The series ended with a summative conference at which keynotes were given by the Chief Executive of the EHRC, Mark Hammond, and the Director General at the department of Communities and Local Government (following a last minute switch from Baroness Warsi, the Faith Minister, who was attending Baroness Thatcher's funeral instead). A package of reports and commentaries has been submitted to EHRC and a programme of religious literacy work is to be rolled out in the autumn of 2013 arising from the recommendations made there. For more information contact m.shaw@gold.ac.uk or see www.religiousliteracy.org

Minimum alcohol pricing: Winners and losers

Tom Henri has recently published research on the potential impact of minimum alcohol pricing. The article 'The Borders of Booze Britain: Alcohol controls and nationality' was recently published in the journal Contemporary Social Science. In the article Tom assessed who are the likely winners and losers from minimum alcohol price setting.

In an interview for www.scienceomega.com Tom said; "This policy targets the impoverished drinker, minimum alcohol pricing punishes the poor. Also, HM Treasury would also lose out. If the policy's aim is to reduce drinking, it follows that people are going to buy less alcohol. This means reduced income for the Treasury. So, who wins? First and foremost the brewing industry will receive a massive transfer of revenue. However, it is likely that minimum pricing would also precipitate a rise in illegal smuggling of alcohol. When you increase a product's cost at the point of sale - by whatever means - you are effectively increasing the profitability of smuggling. If this bill were passed, it would benefit smugglers and their nefarious activities."

You can read the full interview by going to

<http://www.scienceomega.com/article/1081/minimum-alcohol-pricing-who-wins-and-who-loses>

Student MA Art Psychotherapy Exhibition

The annual MA Art Psychotherapy student exhibition takes place from 20 June 2013 through to 24 June 2013. The exhibition will be housed in the Whitehead Building, Whitehead Foyer and the Kingsway Corridor (Richard Hoggart Building). Private views by invitation only are Thursday 20 June from 6pm – 8.30pm. The exhibition is open for public view from Friday 21 June – Monday 24 June from 10.00am – 5.00pm. All are welcome. Please contact Jill Westwood for details at j.westwood@gold.ac.uk

A view from an MA Art Psychotherapy graduate of the MA Art Psychotherapy Summer Exhibition By Kristina Page

The exhibition showcases the creative processes of all three years of students on the MA Art Psychotherapy course, presenting a rich variety of art works that are supported and enhanced by thoughts provoked through working in clinical practice as trainee art psychotherapists. Previous exhibitions have used film, poetry, performance, multi-media, painting, drawing, installation and 3D work. The wide vocabulary of art practice echoes the diverse range of client groups that students work with, as they learn about creating safe environments for clients to engage in art making. Such environments can include nurseries, schools, prisons, hospitals and hospices.

Students' developing identities as artists are shared with the viewer. Issues such as entanglement, containment and abandonment, as experienced through clinical practice, are explored in written statements, using psychodynamic theory towards opening further understanding of the art work. Emotional self-development through undergoing personal therapy as part of the course also inform the exhibition, creating artwork that is searching for connection and is open to response. This combination of reflective practice draws the viewer in through highly sensitive personal accounts, engaging the audience through shared understanding. This echoes the coursework as the student's artistic practise remains the key to understanding psychodynamic art psychotherapy practise. The exhibition explores the relationship between art making and its relationship to the art psychotherapist as artist, connecting the viewer with personal experiences of art making through client-based work.

Religious Literacy Conference at Edinburgh University

Prof Dinham and Martha Shaw led a one-day conference at the University of Edinburgh in May 2013 on religious literacy in higher education. The event was attended by student experience officers, widening participation staff, chaplains, academics and university leaders, including more than one Vice Principal from the Universities of Edinburgh, St Andrews, Strathclyde, Stirling. The intention was to consider how universities could or should engage better with students and staff who have a religious identity. Workshops included 'dealing with equality and diversity'; 'widening participation and international students'; 'extremism and good campus relations'; and 'student experience'.

Dortmund Symposium on Interreligious Relations and Contemporary Society

Prof Dinham joined colleagues in May from all over Europe at a symposium in Dortmund, Germany, on interreligious relations in an increasingly plural Europe. Giving his paper on Religious Literacy in Secular Societies, Prof Dinham drew attention to the growing gap between the way that policy makers imagine religious faiths in Europe – especially as pluggers of gaps in welfare services as states roll back – and the real religious landscape which is less formal, less hierarchical, less creedal, and more 'mashed up'.

Art Therapy Conference – 8-11 April 2013 By Dr Sally Skaife

A large international conference of art therapy 'Finding a Voice, Making your Mark: Defining Art Therapy for the 21st Century', took place over 4 days in Spring, drawing 230 delegates from 26 countries. The conference began with two remarkable keynote, one from the UK and one from the USA, addressing challenges which face art therapy in the 21st century. Each morning started with panel debates exploring aspects of the identity of art therapy through looking at the effects of context, professional identity and theory on diverse practices around the world. There followed experiential groups in which all delegates had the opportunity to use art-making or a process called 'social dreaming' to explore conference themes. The afternoons were dedicated to a large number of paper presentations and each day rounded off with the Conference Art Therapy Large Group, an experiential art therapy group based on group analytic principles, made up of all the delegates. This is a format which we have developed at Goldsmiths and have used for many years on the MA at Goldsmiths. We currently have a British Academy award to research and model this further.

Alongside the conference we ran an exhibition of delegates' art work which included a collaborative group art work by Goldsmiths' art psychotherapy academics and another collaborative piece created by a group of our recent graduates. Delegates fed back that the conference had been a breath of fresh air in their working lives.

Sally Skaife and Kevin Jones have a British Academy Award

Sally Skaife and Kevin Jones have a British Academy Award to research the Art Therapy Large Group (ATLG). The ATLG is a group of all students and staff (currently over 100 people) which is based on group analytic principles and involves art-making. It convenes six times a year under the aegis of the MA Art Psychotherapy. Academics have found that the ATLG is a particularly good means of teaching about organisational issues, team work and clinical practice necessary for functioning effectively as an art therapist at work. In order to provide evidence of this, and the possibility that the ATLG could teach transferable skills for use beyond art therapy, the research will explore how past students are utilising what they learnt from the ATLG at their

workplace, whether in an art therapy role or another role. The award funds a research assistant, Panagiotis Pentaris, (a doctoral candidate in the department, under Prof Dinham's supervision), to administer questionnaires to past students studying on the MA, to conduct interviews with a selection of these and to collate the responses for analysis. This research is now underway, the database of past students has been formed and a pilot is about to proceed.

Dr Kalbir Shukra represents STaCS Research

Dr. Kalbir Shukra represented STaCS research in Community Engagement, working with Fundacja Civic Polonus and Pole Dialogu in Warsaw, to develop and promote youth participation in Poland. Representatives from Fundacja Civis Polonus and Pole Dialogu visited London and Cambridge in January 2013 on a study visit of youth participation experts arranged by Dr. Shukra. Amongst the programmes visited were those based at the Greater London Authority, Bernie Grant Centre, British Youth Council and Lewisham Young Mayor's Programme. The visit also involved agreeing plans for a national conference in Poland and a study visit of young people from London to Warsaw.

In March Dr. Shukra joined Professor Henry Tam, formerly of the government department of Communities and Local Government and now Director of Cambridge University's Forum for Youth Participation & Democracy, to address a national conference of young people, schools and local authorities in Warsaw on the subject of youth participation in England. This was the official launch of the engagement of project teams across six regions of Poland to establish youth participation arrangements. This work complements Dr Shukra's ongoing project with the London Borough of Lewisham tracking the experiences of youth participation in the political sphere through the Young Mayor's initiative. For more information contact k.shukra@gold.ac.uk

Paper Presentation at Lyon Conference in June By Chris Hauke

Chris Hauke is presenting his paper on the psycho-geography of London at a conference - "Psychogéographies, poétiques de l'exploration urbaine : sources, figures, actualité" - in Lyon in June. The paper is called London: Palimpsest and is a version of a chapter he published in Psyche and the City (Spring Publications) edited by Tom Singer. Chris will also be screening his short film called One Colour Red made to mark the demise of London's Red Routemaster buses in 2004 and first screened at Brixton Ritz cinema, as well as a new short film on London made especially for the conference.

Exploring Cultural Dance – Quadrille

A Caribbean Communities in Europe (CACOEU) Project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund By Dr Petronella Breinburg, Projects Co-ordinator, Caribbean Communities in Europe (CACOEU)

In November 2012 CACOEU hosted an event, Quadrille Live!, in the George Wood Theatre, Goldsmiths, University of London to showcase different styles of the dance Quadrille. Quadrille Live! was the culmination of a project into the oral history, meanings and cultural significance of this particular dance form. The event included at least four different styles of Quadrille being showcased by groups from north, south, east and west of London. It involved Quadrille workshops on the variety of styles, discussion groups with local community members, and a Q & A session about what the dance means to people of Caribbean heritage living in London today.

The aim of the 'Exploring Cultural Dance – Quadrille' project was to bring together London's diverse Caribbean community to explore cultural heritage using the Quadrille dance as a focus. The project combined research with personal memories and live gatherings to bring to life the Caribbean Quadrille styles - a dance which is still practised today by many communities across London.

Through workshops and oral history sessions we were able to investigate how Quadrille has, in various forms, been passed on through generations and across continents. We were able to trace and document the dance's journey from its origins in 18th Century Europe, through its adoption by enslaved Africans in the Caribbean, to its present day practice in London.

The project has successfully brought together individuals and groups from across London to share and compare their knowledge and experience of the history and practice of the Quadrille with a particular focus on Jamaican and St. Lucian versions. We learned about the music, costumes and the variations of the dance from community to community and explored participants' first hand knowledge of the dance and the secret meanings within it.

We have found out that it is a much loved pastime in London, a way of feeling in touch with Caribbean culture, and that those involved were thrilled to discover that so many others were practising Quadrille in community centres across the capital. We also introduced Quadrille to those who knew nothing about the dance and encouraged them to take part and found that, having participated, they wanted to learn more.

Participants and volunteers took part in activities such as photography, film making, interview techniques and oral history in order that they could not only contribute to the project but also help to document those contributions. Those involved in dancing Quadrille gave us their time to be photographed in full costume, share information in their own words through vox pop interviews, and perform at the project's premier event Quadrille Live!

This project was developed through collaborative working between local communities and the wider world via postgraduate University students from around the globe. The enthusiasm and support given by all those involved in the project has been incredible and CACOEU would like to believe that through participation in the project and the knowledge disseminated via our website, www.caribbeancommunities.eu the practice of Quadrille can be passed on to future generations.

Panagiotis Pentaris, PhD student, Chairing Panel at Graduate Festival in May: Secularism, Post-Secularism and Public Space

Panagiotis Pentaris is undertaking a PhD under Prof Dinham's supervision on how health care professionals do (of don't) engage with the religion and belief identities of people who are dying. This Graduate Festival panel opens up a discussion with regards to the position of religion and/or non-religion in the contemporary public sphere: what are the parameters and implications of secularization at a community level?; how do faith and/or secular communities interact and take social action?; what is the place of non-religious living in the public sphere?; how are religious literacy and illiteracy affecting secular professional practices? These are some of the guiding questions that will be explored in the panel. Two other STaCS Department PhD students presented in the panel. Canon John Brown (supervised by Prof Dinham) spoke on - 'To engage or not to engage: this is the question' - engagement for social action between Christian Faith Communities, with each other, with other Faith Communities, and with Local Authorities and other Secular Organisations. Timothy Stacey (supervised by Prof Dinham) spoke on 'The Excellence Critique of Liberalism and a future for the common good'. They were joined by Katie Aston [Anthropology Department] - Making Non-Religious Matter - Practices and Narratives of Non-Religious Living.

Panagiotis Pentaris and Timothy Stacey have also been successful in their application for a Graduate School Fund award to run a symposium called "Religion, Spirituality & Non-Religion: theory, politics & practice".

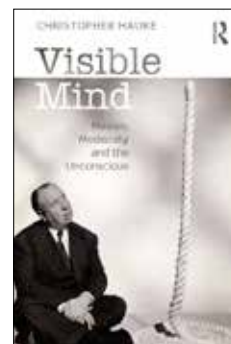
New Books -

Community Research for Community Development edited by Prof Marj Mayo (Palgrave Macmillan 2013)

We are delighted to announce a new book, entitled Community Research for Community Development edited by Prof Marj Mayo, due for publication in August 2013. The book is the culmination of the large and complex 'Take Part' cluster led by Prof Mayo. This was a Research Capacity Building Cluster for Active Citizenship, funded by the Office of the Third Sector and Barrow Cadbury Trust, and working in partnership with the University of Lincoln, Manchester Metropolitan University and University of Birmingham, alongside 32 community organisations (2008-2013). This has had strategic reach and significance through the funding of 7 CASE studentships, 15 empirical community research projects, 7 academic/practitioner reverse placements, and 3 Knowledge Transfer Partnerships. As part of the 'Taking Part' cluster Prof Dinham led a KTP on 'measuring faith-based social action using mainstream tools' and he has contributed a chapter in the book on 'Measurement as Reflection in Faith-Based Social Action'.

Visible Mind. Movies, Modernity and the Unconscious Chris Hauke (Routledge 2013)

Christopher Hauke's new book Visible Mind. Movies, Modernity and the Unconscious is due for publication by Routledge in July. Chris has selected several evocative stills for the book but he saved the best for the cover shown here:



Chris also asked the Wellcome Foundation to re-photograph high resolution images from the Rosarium Philosophorum - a book published in Frankfurt in 1500 which is in their possession. The images are from the sequence of woodcuts showing the progress of the alchemical process from immersion to transmutation, made famous when C. G. Jung published them as a metaphorical illustration of the process of individuation facilitated through psychotherapy. Chris discusses their use in this way and compares them to the storyboard techniques of filmmakers.



Faith And Social Capital After the Debt Crisis

Adam Dinham, Palgrave Macmillan (2012) This book has been reviewed by the LSE 'Top 5 Most Read Books in 2012' list. It challenges users of the idea of social capital to rebalance the 'social' and the 'capital' in favour of relationality. Why should everything be 'capital' or whatever kind? Faith and belief may offer a broader or alternative canvas of concerns, and this book explores how.

Faiths & Civil Society Unit Welcomes Eminent Scholars

Two eminent visitors to the department have given serious food for thought on matters religious. Professor Beth Crisp from Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia, presented her work on faith-based social services in Australia and envisaged new elements in Social Work education equipping social workers for the challenges and opportunities of working with people who have a faith.

Prof John Graham is the Murray Fraser Professor of Social Work at the University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada and a founding member of the Canadian Association of Spirituality and Social Work. He is also a Fellow of the Faiths & Civil Society Unit and this is his first visit to Goldsmiths. His presentation on the subject of how social work professionals can engage meaningfully and transparently with service users' spirituality stimulates debate about the relationship between proxy terms such as religion, faith, spirituality and well-being. What do they mean, how do they differ, and what do they have in common?

For more information about any of these items, please contact Jennifer Mayo-Deman: J.Mayo-Deman@gold.ac.uk Please submit any items for inclusion in further editions at any time, and do please circulate this newsletter.