

## **Call for Papers**

**Prior to 8<sup>th</sup> Conference of the European Sociological Association**

### **PhD Workshop, RN Sociology of Professions**

#### **Professions, citizenship and the changing worlds of welfare governance**

**2-3 September 2007, Glasgow, Scotland**

**Organisation: RN Sociology of Professions  
Ellen Kuhlmann and Viola Burau**

This RN Sociology of Professions PhD workshop will be held immediately preceding the ESA Glasgow conference on 2-3 September 2007. It will link the study of professions to changes in the institutional, organisational and cultural frameworks of societies. The 'worlds of welfare governance' are subject to ongoing transformations. The existing divisions between countries, occupational groups, and providers and users of public services are no longer sustainable. The creation of a European nation challenges the legal frameworks of nation states; the science and educational systems in particular face major changes following the Bologna agreements. Added to this, governments increasingly move from hierarchical regulation towards more flexible and inclusive forms of governance. However, boundaries do not only shift in relation to governmental and institutional regulations, but are also remodelled by the citizens themselves. Increasing migration, changing gender arrangements and the 'agenda of choice' in the public service sector are signs of new modes of citizenship and new demands on the provision of welfare services.

The workshop highlights the role of the professions as mediators between the state and the citizens within the context of changing worlds of welfare governance. Professions are the object of new approaches to governance, and at the same time they are key players in the policy process and provide the services that welfare states and citizens call for. Although the power of the classic welfare professions, in particular the medical profession, is challenged, professionalism experiences a continuous expansion in contemporary 'knowledge' and 'audit' societies. Professionalism provides a highly efficient mode of governing people and public spheres 'at a distance', thus fitting well with the demands of individualisation and participation of citizens. However, new and existing professional groups embody diverse interests and move on different roads towards professionalisation. A number of new professional projects are emerging – from health and social care and counselling services to the media, the educational and training system and the legal profession. The developments are evidence of an increasing significance of both that professions are needed to serve the demands of a changing public, and that professionalism is needed as a regulatory order in an expanding service sector. The perspective of professions may therefore help to better understanding the dynamics of changing welfare states and citizens.

## Keynote lectures

1. Professionalism and managerialism: organisational control at a distance  
*Julia Evetts, University of Nottingham, UK*
2. Removing borders in the worlds of welfare governance? Law, policy and education after Bologna  
*Vittorio Oligiati, University of Urbino, Italy*
3. Crossing boundaries: gendered migration and the medical profession  
*Elianne Riska, University of Helsinki, Finland*
4. Comparing occupational governance across countries: challenges for research design  
*Viola Burau, University of Aarhus, Denmark*
5. Technologies of knowledge and professional power  
*Ellen Kuhlmann, University of Bremen, Germany, Pavel Romanov and Elena Iarskia-Smirnova, Saratov State Technical University, Russia*
6. Citizenship and professional governance: user choice and the public interest  
*Mike Saks, University of Lincoln, UK and  
Ellen Kuhlmann, University of Bremen, Germany*

The workshop aims to provide an opportunity for PhD students and other junior researchers for shared learning and discussion across countries and sociological fields; the idea is to link the papers with the keynote lectures. We invite papers from PhD students and other junior researchers from all fields of sociology that deal with one or more of the thematic issues of the lectures either in a single country or in comparative perspective. Please send a proposal, initially as an abstract of no more than 400 words that also includes a title and your contact address. If the abstract is accepted, a full paper is required by 15 August 2007 at the latest. Papers given at the workshop do not limit the opportunity to present a paper to any of the conference sessions.

The workshop is organised by the Research Network "Sociology of Professions" and takes place prior to the ESA conference, from Sunday morning to Monday afternoon, at the conference venue, Glasgow Caledonian University. There is no fee for the workshop, but participants need to register for the conference and pay for their own for 2 nights accommodation (Saturday and Sunday night) and meals during the workshop. Please note, ESA provides the infrastructure but no additional funding. The number of participants is limited to 30 to ensure a productive and supportive working atmosphere. Registration is required; to register participants must first send an abstract directly to RN Sociology of Professions through the organisers whose email addresses are listed below. Organisational details will be agreed with the ESA Executive Committee and the Local Conference Organising Committee later this year, please also visit the ESA Conference website – <http://www.esa8thconference.com/>

**Deadline** for sending an abstract is **30 January 2007**. Please send your abstract by email to Ellen Kuhlmann, Email: [e.kuhlmann@zes.uni-bremen.de](mailto:e.kuhlmann@zes.uni-bremen.de)  
Viola Burau, Email: [viola@ps.au.dk](mailto:viola@ps.au.dk)