New Practices for New Publics

Second event in the seminar series

June 22, 2016

Venue: University of Brighton Media Centre, Room 105, 1 Dorset Pl, Brighton BN2 1ST.

To book your place please email: newpractices@brighton.ac.uk.

10.30am: coffee, pastries, introductions and revisiting the launch event from May 4, 2016.

11.30am –1pm: Davide Nicolini: Is small the only beautiful? Making sense of ‘large phenomena’ from a practice-based perspective

‘In this presentation I will discuss how a practice-based sensitivity can be used to address big issues and ‘large scale phenomena’. The topic is central to the advancement of practice-oriented studies. Practice-based sensitivities are often pigeonholed as part of micro-sociology and thus deemed unsuitable to deal with some of the big issues of our time and of scarce importance outside academic circles. Showing that this is not the case is therefore of great importance. To do so I will critically survey some of the ways in which practice oriented scholars have addressed ‘large phenomena’ and comment on their affordances and limitations. I will conclude that practice theory requires to reconsider what counts as ‘large scale phenomena’ and so it does not resolve as much as dissolve traditional dichotomies such as the difference between micro and macro, local and global.’

Davide Nicolini is Professor of Organization Studies at Warwick Business School. Prior to joining the University of Warwick he held positions at The Tavistock Institute of Human Relations in London and the University of Trento and Bergamo in Italy. His recent research focuses on the development of a practice-based approach to the study of organizational phenomena and its implications for the understanding of knowing, collaboration and change in organizations. He is also interested in organisational reflection processes and the application and development of action based approaches. Most of his current research is in healthcare where he is studying the generation and circulation of safety knowledge, how top manager mobilise knowledge in their day to day work, and the process through which several ways of knowing are worked together. He has also studied construction sites, factories, public organizations, scientific labs, and pharmacies.

1pm–2pm: Lunch.
2pm–4pm: Joint presentation, Davide and Annouchka Bayley: Taking a New Materialist approach to organisational measurement.

‘In this session we aim to reflect on the embodied, affective and material realities implicit in Karen Barad’s statement that “language has been granted too much power”. How might this impact on new practices in organisation studies? Via the works of Karen Barad, Jane Bennett, Vicki Kirby and others, we aim to consider how the material - the materiality of the body, space, apparatus - actually intra-actively produce the organisation. What would a Baradian approach to studying an organisation actually entail? What would be rendered visible?’

Annouchka Bayley is currently housed between the IKON Group, Warwick Business School and the School of Theatre, Performance and Cultural Policy Studies, Warwick. Her doctoral thesis, Deterritorialisations in Pedagogy: Encounters between Practice-as-Research and Management Learning, takes a performance based approach to the development of interdisciplinary teaching and learning that engages students critically and creatively with non-traditional approaches to real world problems, whilst studying in a Management Learning context. In 2014, Annouchka won a Warwick Award for Teaching Excellence (WATEPGR) for her work teaching and developing new approaches to the WBS curriculum for Critical Issues in Law and Management, Accounting Inquiry, Leadership and the Art of Judgement, and Images of Creativity. She taught Devising, Composition and Storytelling UG courses at the Birmingham School of Acting; has written, performed and directed more than 15 one-woman and ensemble shows in the UK, France, Germany and Japan; and is an Emerging Director with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

4pm-5pm: End of day – reflections and socialising.

We look forward to seeing you there.

The seminar organisers:

Kay Aranda, Sara Bragg, Mary Darking, Nadia Edmond – University of Brighton

Catherine Will – University of Sussex

Kate Weiner – University of Sheffield