

Making medicine in austere times: materialities, moralities and policies of care

MAS-Symposium

University of Bern | 11-13 June 2019



Summary

The financial crisis of 2008 and the austerity policies implemented as a response had severe consequences on peoples' health and practices of care. Health systems based on principles of social welfare and universal access are increasingly considered "unsustainable". In contexts of scarce resources and increasing state debts, new ways of prioritization and triage emerge.

And yet, scarcity is not a new question of the 21st century. In many parts of the world, particularly the so-called Global South, limited means as well as structural shortages have been a permanent feature of healthcare since the 1980s. What seems to be relatively new though, are policies, practices and experiences of scarcity and austerity that converge across the global North and South.

We wish to link the materialities of everyday healthcare in economically austere times with the moral visions, societal values, and policy approaches that influence how medicine and healthcare are conceived and practiced in different locations today. We want to debate the highly controversial nature of austerity and scarcity policies, and inquire about their deep entanglement in moral, political and economic debates on what constitutes the "right" or "just" measure of spending, redistributing and consuming care.



The symposium will explore three main issues:

Experiences and embodiments: How do social actors or institutions cope with and experience the lack of resources? How do contexts of scarcity prompt them to create or to reflect on new forms of care? How to understand new forms of solidarity, care and humanitarian interventions in austere times?

Locations and circulations: How do austerity measures, interventions and resistances circulate across the Global South and North, in times where a global neoliberal economy imperative prevails? In which ways can a look at circulations help to provincialize austerity while acknowledging its global scope?

Temporalities and meanings: What does austerity mean within various temporal contexts worldwide? What are the differences and similarities between structural adjustment policies of the 1980s in the Global South and current austerity measures?

LANGUAGE

English

INFORMATION

www.sagw.ch/seg/commissions/MAS.html

Registration & Fees

SYMPOSIUM FEES

3 days:	CHF 120.– regular fee
	CHF 60.– SEG/MAS members
	CHF 40.– Students (with student's identity card)
2 days:	CHF 90.– regular fee
	CHF 45.– SEG/MAS members
	CHF 20.– Students (with student's identity card)
1 day:	CHF 50.– regular fee
	CHF 25.– SEG/MAS members
	CHF 10.– Students (with student's identity card)

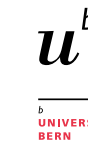
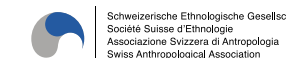
Additional fee for payment on site: CHF 20.–

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

Per E-mail: symposium2019@medicalanthropology.ch

Closing date: Monday, 3rd of June 2019

WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF





Venue

University of Bern: [click here for a map](#)

Main Building Hochschulstrasse 6 3012 Bern	UniS Schanzeneckstrasse 1 3012 Bern
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Organization

Janina Kehr, MAS, University of Bern, Institute of Social Anthropology

Daria Ledergerber, University of Bern, Institute of Social Anthropology

Jean-Paul Gaudillière, Inserm and Cermes3, Paris

Claire Beaudévin, CNRS and Cermes3, Paris

Yannis Papadaniél, University of Lausanne

Tuesday, 11th June 2019

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- 14:00 Arrival and registration
[UniS Entrance](#)
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- 15:00 **PANEL 1 – Mobilisations**
Chair: tba
[UniS B102](#)
- Marta Perez and Irene Rodríguez Newey:** Belonging to everyone, for the use of everyone? Ethnography of (a) struggle for healthcare in Spain
- Sophie Roborgh:** Medical revolutionaries on Tahrir – right to health and revolution
- Ruth Prince:** Care in Crisis: Cancer and the body politic in Kenya
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- 17:30 Coffee Break
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- 18:00 **INTRODUCTION** Janina Kehr, MAS
WELCOME Sylvie Schuster, MAS
[Main Building Room 501 \(Kuppelraum\)](#)
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- 18:15 **KEYNOTE** (freely open to the public)
Helena Hansen: Addiction as Displacement: Techniques of Transformation and Prosthesis in post-Industrial U.S. and Puerto Rico
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Wednesday, 12th June 2019

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- 09:00 **PANEL 2 – Dispositifs**
Chair: tba
[UniS A201](#)
- Rodolfo Maggio:** Coping with austerity: parents and early intervention services in Oxford and north-side Dublin
- Heath Cabot:** Dealing with Donations in Athens' Social Solidarity Clinics and Pharmacies
- Jessica Pourraz:** Between Abundance and Scarcity: Questioning conflicts between local production of antimalarial medicines in Ghana and the Global Fund medicines distribution policies
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- 12:00 Lunch
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- 13:30 **PANEL 3 – Care**
Chair: tba
[UniS A201](#)
- Ciara Kierans:** Chronic Failures: kidneys, regimes of care and the Mexican state
- Erin Koch:** Protracted Displacement, Scarcity and Strategies of Care in the Republic of Georgia
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- 15:30 Coffee Break
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- 16:00 **INTERLUDE – Film Screenings**
[UniS A201](#)
- Film **The Marketable Patient**
(by Leslie Franke and Herdolor Lorenz)
- Film **Los Cuidados**
(by Raquel Congosto and Antonio Girón)
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- 19:00 **POSTER SESSION with Apéro Riche**
[UniS Dining Hall](#)
Inayat Ali; Francesca Cancelliere; Jean-Marc Goudet; Jessica Neicun; Maria Styliidou.
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Thursday, 13th June 2019

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- 09:00 **PANEL 4 – Temporalities**
Chair: Julia Rehsman, MAS
[Main Building Room 501 \(Kuppelraum\)](#)
- Janina Kehr:** Rhythms of Care and Violence in Austerity Spain
- Theodore Powers:** Austerity and Public Health in Post-Apartheid South Africa: People, Policy, Temporality
- Jean-Paul Gaudillière:** Scarcity, triage and the politics of needs: the longue durée of Primary Health Care in Kerala.
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- 11:30 Coffee Break
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- 12:00 **FINAL ROUNDTABLE – Austerity in medicine and beyond**
Moderation: Claire Beaudévin and Janina Kehr
[Main Building Room 501 \(Kuppelraum\)](#)
with Michi Knecht, Christoph Gradmann and Patricia Matos
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