



AALBORG UNIVERSITY
DENMARK

Call for papers

International Conference on Sociology and Social Work

The interaction between sociology and social work: Creativity, Cooperation and Knowledge

Thursday-Friday, May 30-31, 2013

Department of Sociology and Social Work,

Aalborg University, Denmark

This year's conference on Sociology and Social Work explores the relation between sociology and social work as it is expressed in concrete forms of research exemplifying how a creative interaction and cooperation between the disciplines can lead to new forms of knowledge.

An interaction involves immediate processes of action, communication and symbolic forms of exchange between actors. When speaking of research interaction it involves the mutual interest in research subjects, questions, concepts, methods, data, approaches to analysis, dissemination as well as a concern for the practical use of research. Research interaction takes place in different social contexts and research fields, which influences the interactions possible in time and space. However, the concrete forms of research interactions can also change the very field of research as well as the wider society. As Goffman argued, the interaction order constitutes an independent form of social life as well as forces of creative change which deserve a special attention (1982).

This conference on Sociology and Social Work invites scholars to explore the various forms of interaction and cooperation between the two disciplines and the forms of knowledge they enable. We call for abstracts which 'cultivate' traditional as well as 'sprouting' new interfaces – or to put it in Goffman's unorthodox phrasing: *“What sort of animals are to be found in the interactional zoo? What plants in this particular garden?”* And we might add: *What new plants can increase the diversity and fertility of the interaction? How can sociology and social work research in creative cooperation contribute to knowledge about the 'zoo of society' including social work?*

As a starting point and as a source of inspiration we encourage abstracts concerned with one or more of the following themes:

1: Understanding social problems in a globalized world

2: Power and resistance in society and social work practice

3: Social interaction, professional practice and institutional order in social work

4: Self realisation and the responsabilisation of individuals

5: Social structure, inequality and life chances

The conference calls for abstracts which in multiple ways explore how sociology and social work interact, cooperate and create knowledge through a mutual interest in e.g. research subjects, questions, concepts, methods, data, approaches to analysis, forms of dissemination and the concern for the practical use of research. In doing so, we hope that the conference will be a creative forum cultivating the interaction between sociology and social work.

About the conference

The international conference on *Sociology and Social Work* in Aalborg is the third of its kind. The first conference was in Lisbon, May 2011, and the second conference was in Oslo, May 2012. The conference is a forum for different scholars from different research disciplines and with different fields of research, but is unique in the sense that it combines a mutual interest in sociology and social work.

Submission of abstracts

Abstracts (maximum 400 words) should be sent by email to Maria Appel Nissen (maan@socsci.aau.dk) and Mia Arp Fallov (fallov@socsci.aau.dk) Please indicate which theme the abstract is addressing.
Deadline for submission of abstract is February 1, 2013.

Important dates

February 1, 2013: Deadline for submission of abstracts

February 15, 2013: Notification of abstract acceptance

March 1, 2013: Deadline for registration and payment for participation

May 1, 2013: Deadline for sending full paper

Practical informations

Participation with conference dinner: D.kr. 1.500,00 (Approximately 200 Euro / 165 £)

Practical information about registration, payment etc. will follow later – and by notification of abstract acceptance. By January 2013 practical information will also be announced at www.sociologyandsocialwork.aau.dk.

About Aalborg

Aalborg is located in northern Denmark and is situated by a fjord. The conference is held at Aalborg University Campus, Department of Sociology and Social Work. The conference dinner will take place at the Utzon Centre. It is possible to reach Aalborg by train and flight, transferring in e.g. Copenhagen, Amsterdam or London.

Questions about the conference

If you have any questions concerning the conference please contact Maria Appel Nissen, maan@socsci.aau.dk, Associate Professor, Social Work Research

The organising committee look forward to seeing you in Aalborg!

Maria Appel Nissen, Associate Professor, Social Work Research
Mia Arp Fallov, Associate Professor, Social Work Research
Søren Peter Olesen, Associate Professor, Social Work Research
Anders Petersen, Associate Professor, Sociology
Sune Qvotrup Jensen, Associate Professor, Sociology