

CNR Newsletter, Spring 2014

Welcome to the CNR spring 2014 newsletter. This resource exists to distribute news of members', associates' and interested others' relevant research and writings, and also for short reviews of conferences, papers and books, and announcements of future plans. Please email us if you would like to contribute something about your work, or some other writing, to the next issue.

E-Copy date: October 15th 2014. Send to: Aura Lounasmaa a.lounasmaa@uel.ac.uk

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I. Upcoming CNR Events

CNR Research Seminar Series

These seminars take place at UEL Docklands campus room EB1.45, 12:00-13:00

22 April 2014

Cigdem Esin and Mastoureh Fathi

“We were both immigrants but in a different way...” Analysing the narratives of academic immigrants living in London”

CNR & NOVELLA Graduate Seminar Series 2013-14

The following Postgraduate seminar series is hosted by the Centre for Narrative Research, UEL, and NOVELLA (Narratives of Everyday Lives and Linked Approaches), Institute of Education. *All seminars are 5.00-6.30 at the Library, Thomas Coram Research Institute, Institute of Education, 27-8 Woburn Square, London*

Environment as a way into exploring children's narratives of self and space: emerging analyses from fieldwork in India and the UK. 6 May 2014, Catherine Walker, Institute of Education

Exploring narratives of refugees and Christian social activists. 17 June 2014, Mary Sutton, University of East London

To book a place on any of these events or to read more about them, please visit NOVELLA's online store at <http://store.ioe.ac.uk/browse/product.asp?compid=1&modid=2&catid=42> or email Meghan Flight, NOVELLA administrator, at m.flight@ioe.ac.uk

To think is to Experiment, Annual Graduate Research Day

30 April, 2014, Docklands Campus, University of East London

Room: SD.1.03/1.04, SportsDock Building, First Floor

Directions to the campus: <http://www.uel.ac.uk/about/campuses/docklands/>

This is an annual event which opens up spaces in research imagination. It invites presentations from research students in the UK and abroad and it has become an exciting event over the years. Selected papers from the 2012 conference have just been published in the most recent issue of *Narrative Works* (See p.12). This year, we invited papers that are constructed with a problem-based approach. The papers focus on a challenge which postgraduate researchers tackle while analysing narrative material that they work with. We are also interested in the researcher's strategies for getting past the challenge. Our understanding of narrative material is purposefully broad within the context of this invitation. Defining and identifying 'narrative material' itself can be considered as a challenge around which applicants may construct their papers.

Programme:

9.45-10.00 Welcome and Introductions

10.00 - 10.30 Siyanda Ndlovu Memorial Lecture: How do we belong? Narrative explorations of the multiplicities, contradictions and paradoxes of subjective belonging

Dr Nicola Samson, Centre for Narrative Research, UEL

10.30 - 10.50 About working titles, abstracts and narrowing your research focus - A personal narrative on writing a PhD

Kerstin Meißner, Free University Berlin

10.50 - 11.10 Gendertelling in Academia: Narratives from Male-Dominated 'Worlds'

Emanuela Spanò, University of Naples, Italy

11.10-11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 - 11.50 Reflections on transcribing for narrative analysis

Catherine Walker, Thomas Coram Research Unit, Institute of Education

11.50 - 12.10 Development of a multi-layered narrative approach to analysis in order to make sense of men's caring experiences

Ann Stokes, Trinity College Dublin

12.10 - 12.30 'Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans' – When the story of a research project's becoming is inseparable from the subject you plan to study

Sabrina Koepke

12.30 - 12.50 Morning Discussion

12.50-14.00 Lunch Break

14.00 - 14.20 Narratives of Colombian teachers of English in rural areas in Colombia: An understanding of the their professional growth

Sandra Ximena Bonilla Medina, University of East London and Ferney Cruz Arcila, Kings College, London

14.20 - 14.40 Emotional education through narratives about the Basque conflict: a critical understanding of political violence.

Irene Gantxegi, University of Deusto, Bilbao (Spain)

14.40 –15.00 The Narrative of Thought Experiments: How Philosophy Examines the Nature of Consciousness Through Story

Sophie Ward, Goldsmiths, University of London

15.00-15.20 Coffee Break

15.20 -15.40 Stories of professional care: Narrative analysis of accounts from people with dementia

Tessa Hughes, University of East London

15.40 - 16.00 Mature students' stories: a study investigating the complexity of interpretation

Eva Mikuska and Andre Kurowski, University of Chichester

16.00-16.30 Afternoon Discussion

Few places remain for the seminar, please register at

http://store.ioe.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&catid=42&prodid=269

For all other queries please contact CNR administrator Aura Lounasmaa

a.lounasmaa@uel.ac.uk

Living with the cuts: policy, politics and everyday lives in the recession

30 May 2014

One day conference organised by the University of East London and CNR, the NOVELLA research methods node, and the Tavistock Centre.

British Library, Auditorium, 9.30-5.50pm

Many people in the UK are now living with the impact of recession and public spending cuts in their daily lives; larger effects are still to come. Government and policy-makers predict that cuts will continue till the end of the decade, yet these measures' usefulness and necessity are much debated. This day conference brings together academics, policymakers, practitioners, and community researchers, to discuss the issues and levels of analysis that need to be taken into account when studying the cuts, and to explore the human effects and socio-political significance of living in recession.

9.30-10.00: Registration; introduction

10.00-11.30: Policies, stories and realities of recession living

Anita Tiessen, UNICEF: Child well-being: How are children in the UK faring?

Ann Phoenix, NOVELLA: Narratives of negotiating are not enough: Children, families and consumption in straitened circumstances.

Marcus Evans, Tavistock Centre: 'I'm beyond caring'. The failure in social systems to support staff and the patients they care for: A response to the Francis report.

Discussant: Janet Boddy, Sussex University/NOVELLA

11.30-11.45: Tea/coffee

11.45-1.15: Panel 2: Inequality, poverty and division

Mike Savage, LSE: Class divisions in contemporary Britain: insights from the BBC's Great British Class Survey.

Faiza Shaheen, NEF: Insecurity, poverty and inequality - a temporary blip or here to stay?

Tim Hall, UEL: Living wage campaigns

Discussant: Nira Yuval-Davis, UEL

1.15-2.15: Lunch; tea and coffee

2.15-3.45: Panel 3: Living with the cuts: research on everyday lives in recession

Angie Voela, Myrto Tsilimpounidis and Alice Sampson, UEL: Foodbanks: Charity and the charitable subject at a time of crisis.

Ian Tucker, UEL: Austerity, social media and mental health communities

Corinne Squire, CNR/NOVELLA: Living with HIV in London: Precarity and para-liberalism

Tracey Jensen, UEL: Parenting in austerity times, media, and 'poverty porn'

The Drawing Shed, London

Discussant: David Harper, UEL

3.45-4.00: Tea/coffee

4.00-5.30: Panel 4: Reframing the future

Martha Nussbaum, University of Chicago: Austerity and the fate of the humanities

Michael Rustin, UEL/Tavistock - Living with the cuts - or not

Discussant: Meera Tiwari, UEL

Fee including lunch: £50 waged, £25 low waged/unwaged

For registration and further details, please contact Meghan Flight, NOVELLA administrator, at m.flight@ioe.ac.uk

II. Other upcoming narrative events

First National Conference on Narrative Inquiry: Researching and Writing Irish Storyscapes

10 April 2014 Sligo Institute of Technology, Ireland

This first national conference on narrative will present papers across disciplines that have a theoretical, methodological and/or creative interest in narrative. Topics include of narratives of teaching and learning, identity, gender and narrative, narrative as emancipatory or

therapeutic force, childhood and space/place. Keynote speaker is Professor Maria Tamboukou, Professor of Feminist Studies, Co-Director for the Centre for Narrative Research and co-editor of the journal *Gender and Education*, University of East London, England. Professor Tamboukou is a narrative inquiry scholar with an interest in biography, art, politics, labour and feminism. This conference will be of interest to narrative scholars, academics, practitioners, therapists, writers and those with a general interest in cutting edge research in an Irish context.

There are 34 confirmed speakers for the conference and it promises to be a most exciting and interesting gathering of narrative scholars in Ireland.

Keynote Address:

Professor Maria Tamboukou: Action as Narration/Narration as action: reading Maud Gonne's auto/biographical writings

The conference programme is available from otoole.jacqueline@itsligo.ie. For more information and to register, please visit <http://www.eventbrite.ie/e/narrative-inquiry-conference-researching-and-writing-irish-storyscapes-tickets-9775287147>



Annual Lecture 2014: Glenn Greenwald, 14 May 2014 18.30-20.30



The Centre for Cultural Studies Research at the University of East London is a sister Centre to CNR at UEL, with many colleagues being members of both Centres.

CCSR is delighted to announce that our annual lecture for 2014 will be given by Glenn Greenwald, who came to the attention of the world in June 2013 as the journalist responsible for the publication of documents leaked by ex-NSA contractor Edward Snowden. The documents, which were published simultaneously in *The Guardian* and *The Washington Post*, revealed the extraordinary extent of US and UK government surveillance of both private citizens and foreign governments. Since then, the UK government has threatened Greenwald with criminal investigation and his partner, David Miranda, has been arrested and held for nine hours while passing through Heathrow airport on the pretext that he was carrying encrypted electronic documents. Greenwald, who is currently living in Brazil, has publicly stated that 'not being able to visit the UK is not something that I regard as a punishment'.

Greenwald's story raises significant questions about the freedom of the press under the terms of contemporary neoliberal power structures. At the same time, the documents leaked by Snowden, many of which are yet to be published, raise questions about the meaning of democracy in a world where governments continually spy on their citizens. What should be the role of the 'Fourth Estate' in combating the panoptic state? What is the future for investigative journalism when journalists who serve democracy are denounced as threats to national security?

Glenn Greenwald will be appearing by live link from Brazil. He will give a short lecture followed by an extended question and answer session. The event will be chaired by Debra Benita Shaw, Co-Director of CCSR and Jonathan Hardy, Reader in Media Studies in the School of Arts & Digital Industries at UEL. A wine reception will follow. The event is free but places are limited so please register using the Eventbrite link below.

Venue: : Room US.G.17, Ground Floor, University of East London, 1 Salway Road, London, E15 1NN

Narrative Matters 2014

Narrative Knowing / Récit et Savoir

University of Paris, Diderot 23-27 June 2014

Narrative Matters 2014, the 7th Narrative Matters conference, will be held from 23rd June to 27th June 2014 at the University of Paris Diderot and the American University of Paris. The conference will address the theme of *Narrative Knowing/Récit et Savoir*.

This conference will bring together scholars of all disciplines — psychology, psychoanalysis, sociology, anthropology, history, philosophy, linguistics, literary studies, feminist and gender studies, education, medicine/healthcare, social work, biology, law, theology, computer science, visual studies, etc. — to reflect on the issue of the, sometimes, contested epistemic powers of narrative.

What relations are there between narrative and knowledge? How do forms of knowledge inform and produce narratives? How do narratives communicate or produce knowledge? Which ones? What is the nature of narrative knowledge as opposed to other forms of knowledge (common or spontaneous knowledge of reality, scientific knowledge, philosophical “wisdom”, etc.)? Does narrative constitute a privileged mode of knowledge or is it an epistemologically opaque means of pursuing the truth?

The following panels and talks by CNR members may be of special interest:

Wednesday, June 25th 2014 at 11:15 a.m (Room: 681 / 6th Floor)

Panel session: Narrative health psychology

Chair: Michael Murray (Keele University, UK)

Narrative futuring as narrative knowing, Anneke Sools (Twente University, Netherlands)

The development of narratives about pain of chronic pain patients, Gerben Westerhof (Twente University, Netherlands), Karlein Schreurs (Twente University, Netherlands)

Surfing narratives and PTSD, Brett Smith (Loughborough University, UK)

Surfing narratives and PTSD, Ad Kaptein (Leiden University, Netherlands)

Thursday, June 26th 2014 at 9:30 a.m (Room: 677 / 6th Floor)

Panel session: Narratives across media as ways of knowing (I)

Chairs: Heather Elliott (NOVELLA, TCRU, Institute of Education, UK), Corinne Squire (NOVELLA, CNR, University of East London, UK)

Potentiating narrative knowledges through visual and cross-media research: telling stories in the picture: narrative multiplicity and more ..., Cigdem Esin (CNR, University of East London, UK)

Imaging the subject, Renata Kokanovic (Monash University, Australia)

Masculinity, ambiguity and the new intimacy in narrative cinema, Candida Yates (University of East London, UK)

Spatiality and non-verbal performance in narratives of amputation, Emily Heavey (Kings' College London, UK)

Thursday, June 26th 2014 at 11:15 a.m (Room: 677 / 6th Floor)

Panel session: Narratives across media as ways of knowing (II)

Chairs: Heather Elliott (NOVELLA, TCRU, Institute of Education, UK), Corinne Squire (NOVELLA, CNR, University of East London, UK)

Digital media: extending knowledges through and of multi-modal narratives: narratives of parenting' knowledge in online parenting forums, Joe Winter (NOVELLA, Institute of Education, UK)

Recipes for mothering, Heather Elliott (NOVELLA, TCRU, Institute of Education, UK), Corinne Squire (NOVELLA, CNR, University of East London, UK)

Contagion, 'pande-media' and narrative knowledge, Mark Davis (Monash University, Australia)

Thursday, June 26th 2014 at 4:00 p.m (Room: 677 / 6th Floor)

Panel session: Narrative knowledge production in cross-cultural research: new debates

Chair: Cigdem Esin (University of East London, UK)

Narratives in and out of context, Aura Lounasmaa (Global Women's Studies Programme, NUI Galway, Ireland)

Narrating resilience: what can we learn from people's experiences across cultures and contexts? Tanja Kovačič (UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, NUI Galway, Ireland)

Narrating the self across cultures: the narratable self and subjectivity, Emma Brännlund (Global Women's Studies Programme, NUI Galway, Ireland)

Friday, June 27th 2014, 2 p.m to 3:15 p.m

Plenary Session #3: Molly Andrews: Knowledge, reason and imagination: narrating the self over time

Full programme available [here](#).

For more information, please visit <http://www.aup.edu/news-events/lectures-conferences/narrative-matters-2014>

NOVELLA (Narratives of Everyday Lives and Linked Approaches) ESRC Research Methods Node at the Institute of Education,

with

London Social Science (Goldsmiths' and Queen Mary Colleges, ESRC Doctoral Training Centre)

Researching Digital Narratives

1st July 2014, 10.30 – 16.30pm

Richard Hoggart Building, 150 RHB, Goldsmiths, University of London, New Cross,
London, SE14 6NW

Social researchers are increasingly interested in collecting and analysing online materials, both as a means of studying contemporary phenomena, and in order to understand more about online social worlds themselves. Narrative research is proving a fruitful method to explore both the advantages and the problems of such research. In this day workshop, the NOVELLA (Narratives of Everyday Lives and Linked Approaches) research methods node provide guidance on how such work can be conducted, including opportunities for practical work with examples of online data.

10.30-11.00 Registration and refreshments

11.00-11.15 Welcome

11.15-12.15 Identity signs and strategic visibility: An introduction to contemporary digital narrative research - Mark Davis (Monash University)

12.15-13.30 Narratives in email interviews - Joe Winter (NOVELLA, Institute of Education)

13.30-14.30 Lunch

14.30-15.45 Blog narratives: analysing stories of mothering and food practices in online blogs -Heather Elliott and Corinne Squire (NOVELLA, Institute of Education and Centre for Narrative Research, University of East London)

15.45-16.00 Refreshments

16.00-16.30 Plenary panel discussion

Registration:

For more information and to book a place on the conference, please email Meghan Flight, NOVELLA administrator, at m.flight@ioe.ac.uk

Conference fees:

- Free to attend – Goldsmith/QMUL DTC Students
- £20 - UK Registered Postgraduates & Voluntary Workers
- £30 - Staff at UK academic institutions, RCUK funded researchers, public sector staff, staff at registered charity organisations and those working in archives.

- £40 – All other delegates

Lunch and light refreshments are included.

NOVELLA Conference

NOVELLA (Narratives of Everyday Lives and Linked Approaches) is an ESRC National Centre for Research Methods research methods node, in which CNR is a partner.

On 7 July 2014 NOVELLA will hold a one day conference at St Catherine’s College, Oxford University to discuss showcase the findings of the research programme, their implications for family identities, practices and policies and the resulting methodological insights. There will

be opportunities for both methodological and substantive discussion.

The keynote address will be given by the leading international scholar on narrative analysis, Professor Cathy Riessman. Speakers include Dr Janet Boddy, Professor Julia Brannen, Heather Elliott, Dr Rebecca O’Connell, Dr Abigail Knight, Professor Ann Phoenix, Catherine Walker and Joe Winter.

Keynote Lecture

‘Writing to get through it’: Narrating Cancer

Professor Cathy Riessman, Boston College

Can everyday life ever return to normal after a trauma? What happens to our taken-for-granted notions of time? Stories – spoken and written – that recount the troubled times appear to have beginnings, middles and endings, but experienced time can blur clear temporal boundaries. In a case study I explore narrative time by interrogating the writings of a cancer survivor who kept a journal over the course of her illness. She imagined audiences, which shifted over time, for her evolving narrative about the illness episode. I critically interrogate the narrative to raise questions about identity, temporality and audiencing – defining features of narrative research.

Abstracts of talks

Meanings of environment for families in India and the UK (Family Lives & the Environment)

Dr Janet Boddy, Sussex University

This paper draws on analysis conducted for the Family Lives and the Environment study. The research has both methodological and substantive aims, drawing on multiple methods, including secondary analysis of the *Young Lives* qualitative data set from India and narrative analytic approaches to improve understanding of the negotiated complexity of families' lives in relation to their environments. Drawing on diverse family case studies – encompassing urban and rural contexts in India and the UK – narrative analysis illuminates the ways in which place and time intersect with meanings of environment, and relationships with the environment, in everyday family lives.

Migration, memories and identities (Parenting, Identities & Practices)

Professor Julia Brannen

The Parenting Identities and practices study created a new dataset for secondary analysis from two previous studies to analyse the narratives of men who came to Britain from the Caribbean and from Ireland in the middle of the twentieth century. In this paper we consider how the experience of migration in early life reverberates through the life course. This paper considers the experiences of Irish men who came to Britain in the middle of the 20th century as young adults. It shows what a narrative analysis adds to understanding of their experiences by addressing how their lives are storied in relation to particular times and places and what they tell us about the meaning of belonging to a family lineage. The analysis suggests that from the present perspectives of informants the past is still alive and open to interpretation rather than ‘over and done with’.

Recipes for mothering? An analysis of UK blogs about feeding the family in contexts of

scarcity (Recipes for mothering)

Dr Rebecca O'Connell

This paper discusses a small-scale NOVELLA study that analysed food blogs created by two mothers. It presents insights that arise from addressing a range of questions. What might researchers learn from UK women's contemporary blogs about meals, mothering, family life, limited money, and shortages of time? How might we approach such complex materials, powerfully shaped and enabled by digital technologies, but also inflected by many other kinds of text, such as diaries and recipes, as 'data'?

Food and families in the archives: methodological reflections on using narrative archival data to study food and family life in hard times (Families & Food)

Dr Abigail Knight, Thomas Coram Research Unit, Institute of Education, University of London

This paper starts from C Wright's Mills' (1959) exhortation that an historical approach in sociology is essential in furthering our understanding of the social world and the call by Caroline Brettell (1998) to carry out 'fieldwork in the archives'. It draws on our use narrative archival sources, namely diary and oral history data, to research everyday family food practices in times of austerity. It presents analyses of two oral history archives and from the Mass-Observation Archive.

The centrality of marginalia: analysing paradata from the Poverty in the UK study (Poverty in the UK: Advancing paradata analysis and open access ESRC cross-investment project)

Heather Elliott

This paper presents analysis of paradata from Peter Townsend's influential study 'Poverty in the UK: A Survey of Household Resources and Standards of Living 1967-68'. These notes written by fieldworkers in the margins of the survey booklets are a product of their time since surveys are now computer assisted. From the secondary analysis of these paradata, we draw out the types of marginalia, the stories that they tell and how they can be used to re-construct the everyday working practices of research teams from the period – including ethical practices.

Becoming reflexive researchers: An experiment in research collaboration

Catherine Walker and Joe Winter

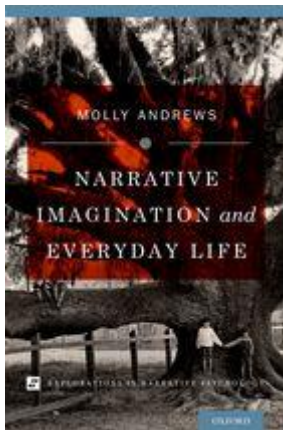
PhD students who do narrative research are frequently encouraged to be reflexive in the way they conduct their research. This paper addresses the ways in which positioning as PhD students linked to the NOVELLA research mode has afforded opportunities to view PhD work as part of a joint endeavour, allowing for collaborations at both a peer-to-peer level and with researchers at more advanced stages in their academic careers. This presentation explores the relationship between collaboration and reflexivity by presenting transcribed extracts of phone discussions where Catherine Walker and Joe Winter work together to consider and make sense of their positioning in their research practice, particularly as emerging researchers in a research culture that has been criticised for emphasising 'competitive individualism at the expense of collegiality, collaboration, altruism and activism' (Klocker and Drozdowski, 2012).

- * If you require accommodation for Sunday night (NOVELLA Conference is on Monday), please book through us, the charge is £70 B&B.
- * If you require accommodation for Monday night (for the Research Methods Festival on Tuesday), please book through NCRM - RMF.
- * Event venue: the Arumugan Building, St Catherine's College, Manor Road, Oxford OX1 3UJ.
- * Event time: 9.30-17.30, 7th July 2014.

To book, visit

http://store.ioe.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&deptid=112&catid=42&productid=203

III. Recent and upcoming CNR Publications



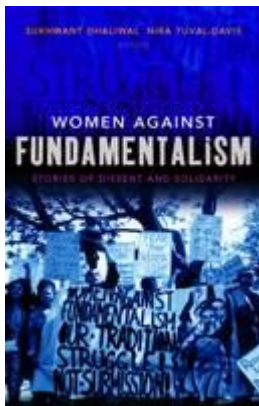
Narrative imagination and everyday life
Molly Andrews
 Oxford University Press, 2014

It has been widely acknowledged that in the past few decades, there has been a 'narrative turn' - an interest in the storied nature of human life. However, very little work has discussed the role of imagination. *Narrative Imagination and Everyday Life* looks at how stories and imagination come together in our daily lives, influencing not only our thoughts about what we see and do, but also our contemplation of what is possible and what our limitations are. Without imagination, we are forever doomed to the here and now.

But our imaginations are always influenced by our own particular experiences, which we recount to ourselves and others through stories - both told and untold.

Combining scholarly research with personal experience, Andrews examines how story and imagination come together in different areas of life such as education, politics, and aging. She focuses on the importance of the narrative imagination when listening to the experiences of others who have very different experiences of the world, asking if it is ever possible to understand the suffering of others. She asks what kind of stories influence our thinking about who we are becoming in our aging selves. In the chapter on teaching, she looks at the dynamics of the teacher-student relationship and the stultifying effect of some educational practices and policies on the imagination. The discussion on education and global citizenship leads directly into the chapter on political narratives, where Andrews uses the example of Barack Obama as one of the most strategic storytellers of our time.

Narrative and imagination are integrally tied to one another; this is immediately clear to anyone who stops to think about stories real and imagined, about the past or in a promised, or feared, future. In asking why and how this is so, Andrews directs us to ruminate on what it means to be human.



Women against fundamentalism: stories of dissent and solidarity
(2014) ed. by **Sukhwant Dhaliwal and Nira Yuval-Davis**
Lawrence and Wishart

2014 is WAF's 25th anniversary year, and this book maps the development of the organisation over the past 25 years, through the life stories and political reflections of some of its members. It focuses on the ways in which lived contradictions have been reflected in their politics. Their stories describe the pathways that led them to WAF, and the role WAF has played in their lives and in the different forms of political activism in which they have engaged. Discussing feminist activism from a wide variety of different ethnic and religious

backgrounds, contributors highlight the complex relationships of belonging that are at the heart of contemporary social life - including the problems of exclusionary political projects of belonging. They also explore the ways in which anti-fundamentalism relates to broader feminist, anti-racist and other emancipatory political ideologies and movements. The personal stories at the centre of this book are those of women whose lives enact the complexities of multiple (if shifting and contingent) mutually constitutive axes of power and difference. Much of their concerns therefore relate to crossing the boundaries of collectivity and practising a 'dialogical transversal politics' that has developed as an alternative to identity politics.



CNR's contribution to **Sage handbook of qualitative data analysis**

Cigdem Esin together with **Mastoureh Fathi** and **Corinne Squire** contributed to the Sage Handbook of Qualitative Data Analysis (2014) with their chapter, '*Narrative analysis: the constructionist approach*'. The volume, edited by Uwe Flick, has been published as a resource for the researchers employing qualitative practices of research. The chapter appeared in the section entitled, Analytic Strategies. It maps out the epistemological background of the constructionist narrative analysis, and summarises the practical methodological process with examples from Esin's, Fathi's and Squire's research.

The latest issue of *Narrative Works* has now been published and is available here:
http://w3.stu.ca/stu/sites/cirn/current_issue.aspx

The current issue includes a special section on Narratives of Translation in which all the papers originate from the 2012 To Think is to Experiment postgraduate day organised under the same theme. The seminar was co-organised with NOVELLA. For more information please see the introduction to the section by **Cigdem Esin**.

Articles

Subjective darkness: depression as a disintegration of meaning in the core narrative
Meredith Lynn Friedson

The narrative shaping of meaning in Gail Godwin's *A Southern Family* why fiction?
Elaine Lux

**Special Section:
Narratives of Translation within Research Practice**

Introduction
Cigdem Esin

Dialogical and transversal translation: trespassing cultural boundaries and making the self through language
Mastoureh Fathi

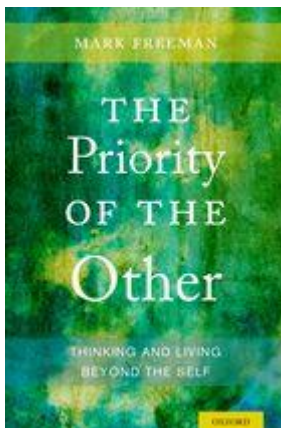
Narratives in/of translations: a triologue on translating narratives cross-culturally
Emma Brännlund, Tanja Kovacic, Aura Lounasmaa

Transitions and translations: the story of carrying out higher education field research in three languages in two countries
Réka Plugor

Narrating Nadia: an interview lost between translation and a kidnapping
Natalie Honein

Book Review (Invited)

Margaret Morganroth Gullette. *Agewise: fighting the new ageism in America.*
Ruth Ray Karpen



The priority of the other: thinking and living beyond the self (Oxford, 2014)

Mark Freeman

Psychology, having come of age under the influence of Descartes and other champions of the thinking "I," has come to focus largely on what happens inside the self. This perspective expanded with the emergence of social psychology and, more recently, cultural psychology, but by and large, the field has taken an essentially ego-centric approach. Working from this basic premise, Mark Freeman proposes that we adopt a more "ex-centric" perspective, one that

affirms the priority of the Other in shaping human experience. In speaking of the "Other," Freeman refers not only to other people, but also to those non-human "others," nature, art, God, that take us beyond the ego and bring us closer to the world. In speaking of the Other's priority, he insists that there is much in life that "comes before us." By thinking and living the priority of the Other, we can therefore become better attuned to both the world beyond us and the world within.

At the heart of Freeman's perspective are two fundamental ideas. The first is that the Other is the primary source of meaning, inspiration, and existential nourishment. The second is that it is the primary source of our ethical energies, and that being responsive and responsible to the world beyond us is a defining feature of our humanity. There is a tragic side to Freeman's story, however. Enraptured though we may be by the Other, we frequently encounter it in a state of distraction and fail to receive the nourishment and inspiration it can provide. And responsive and responsible though we may sometimes be, it is perilously easy to retreat inward, to the needy ego. The challenge, therefore, is to break the spell of the "ordinary oblivion" that characterizes much of everyday life. *The Priority of the Other* can help us rise to the occasion.



Dr Maja Korac-Sanderson

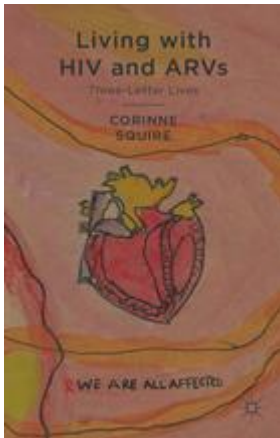
Maja's ongoing research on *Migration to transition societies: Chinese in Serbia* moves beyond intersecting macro structures of global restructuring, transnational processes and practices are linking new sending and destination areas. It explores the agency of the migrants themselves and how they transform transition societies into attractive destinations. Theoretically, this research challenges dominant notions of temporary or permanent settlement and incorporation in migration literature. The specific focus of this research is Chinese migration to Serbia. The project combines ethnographic fieldwork in Serbia, analysis of the (local) media concerning 'the exotic stranger in our midst', as well as a survey of literature on new Chinese migration as well as on rural-urban migration within China.

Related publications include:

2013 'Chinese traders in Serbia: Translocal family strategies and transnational pathways to incorporation', *Ars&Humanitas* special issue *Many Faces of Migration*, Vol. 7, No. 2

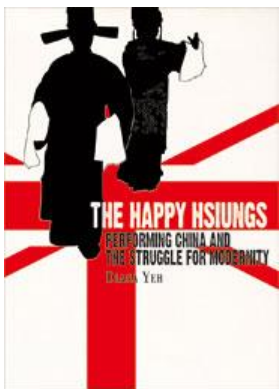
2013 'Transnational pathways to integration: Chinese traders in Serbia', *Sociologija*, special issue on *Contemporary Migration and Challenges to Social Integration*, Vol. 55, No. 2 (Sociology – the journal of the Serbian Sociological Association, paper published in English).

2013 'Transnational entrepreneurs: Chinese in Serbia and their translocal strategies of betterment and incorporation' in Kokot, W., C. Giordano, M. Gandelsman-Trier (eds) *Diaspora as a Resource: Comparative Studies in Strategies, Networks and Urban Space*. Münster, Berlin, Vienna, Zurich: LIT Verlag, Freiburger Sozialanthropologische Studien / Freiburg Studies in Social Anthropology



Living with HIV and ARVs : Three-letter lives
Corinne Squire
 Palgrave Macmillan, 2013

This book gives an account of the new possibilities and difficulties of long-term living with HIV and antiretroviral treatment. It takes an international perspective, looking at commonalities and differences across high and middle-income countries. The book draws on narrative data collected over a long period in the UK and South Africa. Analysing these stories, it argues that the HIV pandemic still presents highly particular issues that we need to address. The book suggests that HIV's present 'naturalized' incorporation into policy and everyday life is incomplete and difficult. It describes the medicalization, normalization and marketization processes that characterize current political, policy and popular approaches to HIV, and argues that these processes often fail or are resisted by people living with HIV. Finally, it describes people living with HIV's own new narrative strategies for constructing, protecting and extending their HIV citizenship.



The happy Hsiungs: Performing China and the struggle for modernity
Diana Yeh
RAS China in Shanghai

'Try Something Different. Something Really Chinese'

The Happy Hsiungs recovers the lost histories of Shih-I and Dymia Hsiung, two once highly visible, but now largely forgotten Chinese writers in Britain, who sought to represent China and Chineseness to the rest of the world. Shih-I shot to worldwide fame with his play *Lady Precious Stream* in the 1930s and became known as the first Chinese director to work in the West End and on Broadway. Dymia was the first Chinese woman in Britain to publish a fictional autobiography in English. Diana Yeh traces the Hsiungs' lives from their childhood in Qing dynasty China and youth amid the radical May Fourth era to Britain and the USA, where they rubbed shoulders with George Bernard Shaw, James M. Barrie, H. G. Wells, Pearl Buck, Lin Yutang, Anna May Wong and Paul Robeson.

In recounting the Hsiungs' rise to fame, Yeh focuses on the challenges they faced in becoming accepted as modern subjects, as knowledge of China and the Chinese was persistently framed by colonial legacies and Orientalist discourses, which often determined how their works were shaped and understood. She also shows how Shih-I and Dymia, in negotiating acceptance, performed not only specific forms of Chineseness but identities that conformed to modern ideals of class, gender and sexuality, defined by

the heteronormative nuclear family. Though fêted as 'The Happy Hsiungs', their lives ultimately highlight a bitter struggle in attempts to become modern.

Diana Yeh is an Associate Lecturer at the University of East London and Birkbeck College, University of London. Formerly *Sociological Review* Fellow, she publishes on race, diaspora, migration and culture, and has presented her research on BBC Radio Four, and at institutions such as the Royal Geographical Society, the WellcomeTrust, National Portrait Gallery and Tate Britain. Her PhD was conducted with CNR members as supervisors.

Diana will be speaking about her book and her research for a recent knowledge exchange project between University of Bristol and Penguin Books China for a series of talks in China this March. She will be taking part in the Bookworm International Festival in [Beijing](#) and [Suzhou](#), as well as giving a Royal Asiatic Society Lecture in [Shanghai](#). She will also be discussing her wider research at the University of Nottingham, [Ningbo](#), China.

Publications by **Maria Tamboukou** 2014

1. (2014) '[Beyond figuration and narration](#): Deleuzian approaches to Gwen John's paintings'. *Deleuze Studies*. 8 (2), 230-255.
2. (2014) '[Imagining and living the revolution: an Arendtian reading of Rosa Luxemburg's letters and writings](#).' *Feminist Review*. (106, 27-42)
3. (2014) '[Archival Research](#): Unravelling space/time/matter entanglements and fragments. *Qualitative Research*, on-line first, 2013, doi:10.1177/1468794113490719
4. (2014) '[Farewell to the self](#): between the letter and the self-portrait' *Life Writing*, on-line first, 2013, doi:10.1080/14484528.2013.810242.

IV. Other recent and upcoming narrative publications

Self-studies in rural teacher education, Springer 2015

Dr. Bernadette Walker-Gibbs and Dr. Ann Schulte, Editors

The purpose of this book is to highlight the self-studies of teacher educators in the field of rural education. The field of research on teacher preparation has an abundance of studies about preparing students for the challenges of urban settings. There is much less emphasis on rural education, despite the high numbers of rural districts. In this book, education faculty who prepare teachers study the ways in which one's identity impacts their teaching, their research, and the partnerships with rural districts. Self-study is a process of situated inquiry; it is knowledge about the personal, the professional, and the classroom.

This book problematises the notion of rural or rurality which is often considered via a deficit or a generalised model where a stereotype of one kind of rural is outlined. Alongside highlighting teachers' work, this book engages with the challenges faced in rural communities in attracting and retaining staff who understand the complexities of living and working in rural spaces including visibility, access to resources, and opportunities.

V. News from CNR members, advisors and associates

A paper co-authored by CNR staff has been nominated for the 2014 SAGE Prize for Innovation and/or Excellence.

'You Are Here': Visual Autobiographies, Cultural-Spatial Positioning, and Resources for Urban Living
Corinne Squire, Cigdem Esin and Chila Burman (2013), *Sociological Research Online*, 18 (3) 1

<http://www.socresonline.org.uk/18/3/1.html>

Congratulations to Corinne and Cigdem from CNR and to Chila, Leverhulme Artist in Residence at UEL in 2010



Exciting new book series, Radical Cultural Studies, with Rowman & Littlefield International

The Editor of this series, Professor Maggie Humm, is a CNR member and is also a member of the associated UEL Centre for Cultural Studies Research. Maggie very much welcomes book proposals.

The Radical Cultural Studies series with Rowman & Littlefield International commissions monographs and edited collections to provide new and radical analyses of the socio-politics, aesthetics and ethics of contemporary cultures. The series will stimulate debates across and within disciplines, will foster new approaches to Cultural Studies, and will assess the radical potential of key ideas and theories in Cultural Studies. Topics include:

- Contemporary cultural forms and their radical potential
- Cultural Studies across national borders
- Cultural change and resistant practices
- Cultural studies and the academy
- New political formations of race, gender and sexuality
- New perspectives on war, conflict and forced migration
- New theoretical approaches to cultural change
- Global politics in contemporary local contexts
- Science, technology & cultural forms
- Radical politics and new forms of community
- Cultures of memorialization.
- Body cultures.
- Cultures of Eugenics and Genetics
- Cultures of Evolution and Devolution

For more information contact Professor Maggie Humm m.humm@uel.ac.uk



CNR is now on twitter. Follow us at @CNRUEL. Tweeting upcoming events and other narrative research news is our administrator Aura Lounasmaa. If you are attending an interesting narrative event that you would like to live tweet for us, please get in touch.



New Administrator for CNR



Aura Lounasmaa joined the CNR as an administrator in November. Aura looks helps out with emails, writes short reports when needed, tweets for the CNR and has put together this newsletter with all your contributions. Aura successfully defended her PhD from the University of Galway in Ireland in January. Her research is on Moroccan women's NGOs and her thesis is entitled "Women and modernity: the global and the local in Moroccan women's NGOs' advocacy and public awareness work". She coordinated the Narrative Studies Group in University of Galway for two years and since moving to London in 2012 she has actively participated in CNR events. These days you can spot her in CNR events with five-month old Amelia.

VI. Other News

Dutch Lifestorylab University of Twente celebrates 2 year anniversary

www.utwente.nl/lifestorylab

The Dutch Lifestorylab is the Center of expertise in the field of narrative psychology and mental health. We study the role of stories in person-centred care and how stories can be used to promote well-being, quality of life and resilience. We do fundamental and applied research in the area of narrative health psychology, teach narrative psychology and narrative methodology at the undergraduate and graduate level, and supervise PhD-projects in relevant areas. Applied research projects are performed in close cooperation with various health care organizations. The Dutch website of the Center attracts over 500 visitors each month, thus emphasizing its relevance to a wide audience in the academic and professional health care community. In March 2013 we organized a Narrative Care conference where around 125 participants engaged in workshops and attended lectures by Rita Charon, Michael Murray, Gerben Westerhof, Anneke Sools and others.

Current Research Projects:

- Remembering, ageing and mental health;
- Narrative futuring, well-being and resilience;
- Narrative team identity development of health care professionals;
- Interaction between nurses and residents in a nursing home;
- A visual-narrative study of images of recovery of people with longterm mental health problems and mental health workers;
- Using written lifestories in psychotherapy of people diagnosed with 'personality disorder';
- Process and effect evaluations of narrative interventions such as "Who am I" (for people with a psychiatric background and an intellectual disability);
- Patient stories about experiences with hospital care.

New directions: E-technology and international cooperation

For our research, teaching and health interventions we increasingly make use of e-technology, in particular through web-based tools. Examples of research using web-based data-collection are the *Letters from the Future* Project (www.utwente.nl/lifestorylab) and the *Patients Know Better* Project (www.patiëntenwetenbeter.nl). In the first project we study the content, processes, forms and functions of imagining the future through stories, and how imagining the future can be used to promote resilience in times of crisis and change. We are currently investigating possibilities to extend this Dutch-German case study to Greece and other countries by starting international cooperation with interested researchers. The second project is a Dutch national study of how patients stories can be used to improve hospital care. The Rathenau Institute (Dutch policy research institute) who initiated the project will present the results to Dutch policy makers during the coming months. An example of a web-based self-help course we developed is *The Stories We Live By*, based on narrative therapy and life-review. After a successful course aimed at individual participants suffering from mild depression, we are now running an online group-course. Also in this project we are now developing international collaborations. The impact of technological innovations in health care on identity, well-being and resilience will be an important area of future research. The most prominent new project in this area will be about narrative identity construction of Parkinson patients who receive deep brain stimulation. Finally, we plan to continue and strengthen international collaboration in joint publications such as the planned special issue on Narrative Health Psychology (together with Michael Murray from Keele University).

Selection of recent and upcoming publications

Bohlmeijer, E. T., & Westerhof, G. J. (2013). Life review as a way to enhance personal growth in midlife: A case-study. *International Journal of Reminiscence and Life Review*, *1*, 13-18.

Custers, A. F. J., Westerhof, G. J., Kuin, Y., Gerritsen, D. L., & Riksen-Walraven, J. M. (2013). Need fulfillment in the nursing home: Resident and observer perspectives in relation to resident well-being. *European Journal of Aging*, *10*, 201-209. doi: 10.1007/s10433-013-0263-y

Heerings, M., Egmond, S. van & Sools, A. (forthcoming). What TA can learn from patient narratives. Using narrative methodology to assess the role of patients in Dutch hospitals. In: *Technology Assessment and Policy Areas of Great Transitions*.

Korte, J., Bohlmeijer, E. T., Cappeliez, P., Smit, F., & Westerhof G. J. (2012). Life-review therapy for older adults with moderate depressive symptomatology: A pragmatic randomized controlled trial. *Psychological Medicine*, *42* (6), 1163-1172. doi:10.1017/S0033291711002042

Korte, J., Cappeliez, P., Westerhof, G. J., & Bohlmeijer, E. T. (2012). Meaning in life and mastery mediate the relationship of negative reminiscence with psychological distress among older adults with mild to moderate depressive symptoms. *European Journal of Aging*, *9*, 343-351. DOI: 10.1007/s10433-012-0239-3

Korte, J., Drossaert, C. H. C., Westerhof, G. J., & Bohlmeijer, E. T. (2013, online first). Life-review in groups? An explorative analysis of social processes that facilitate or hinder the effectiveness of life-review. *Aging and Mental Health*. doi:10.1080/13607863.2013.837140.

Korte, J., Westerhof, G. J., & Bohlmeijer, E. T. (2012). Mediating processes in an effective life review intervention. *Psychology and Aging*, *27*, 1172-1181. doi: 10.1037/a0029273

Murray, M. Sools, A. (forthcoming). Narrative Research in Clinical and Health Psychology. In: P.Rohleder & A.Lyons (Eds), *Qualitative Research in Clinical and Health Psychology*. Palgrave MacMillan.

Sools, A. & Murray, M. (forthcoming). Promoting health through narrative practices. In: M.Murray (Eds), *Critical Health Psychology*. London:Palgrave/MacMillan.

Sools, A. & Schuhmann, C. (2014). Theorizing the narrative dimension of psychotherapy: A big and small story approach. *Contemporary Journal of Psychotherapy*. DOI 10.1007/s10879-014-9260-5

Sools, A. (2013). Narrative health research: Exploring big and small stories as analytical tools. *Health: An interdisciplinary journal for the social study of health, illness, and medicine*.

Sools, A. & Mooren, J.H.M. (2012). Towards narrative futuring in psychology: Becoming resilient by imagining the future. *Graduate Journal of Social Science*, 9, 203-226.

Truong, K. P., Westerhof, G. J., Lamers, S. M. A., de Jong, F. M. G., & Sools, A. (2013). *Emotional expression in oral history narratives: comparing results of automated verbal and nonverbal analyses*. In: Workshop on Computational Models of Narrative, CMN 2013, 2013-08-04 - 2013-08-06, Hamburg, Germany (pp. pp. 310-314).

Westerhof, G. J., & Bohlmeijer, E. (2012). Life stories and mental health: The role of identification processes in theory and interventions. *Narrative Works*, 2(1), 106-128. Retrieved from <http://journals.hil.unb.ca/index.php/NW/article/view/19501/21071>.

Westerhof, G. J., Vuuren, M. van., Brummans, B., & Custers, A. F. J. (2013, online first). A Buberian approach to the co-construction of relationships between professional caregivers and residents in nursing homes. *Gerontologist*. doi: 10.1093/geront/gnt064



www.somethingrhymed.com



We've all heard of the friendships between Wordsworth and Coleridge, Byron and Shelley, Hemingway and Fitzgerald. But have you ever wondered whether Jane Austen had a writer pal, or what about George Eliot?

Something Rhymed is a website about the important friendships between famous female authors. Writer pals Emily Midorikawa and Emma Claire Sweeney profile a different pair of

friends each month, and then challenge themselves to complete an activity based on a prominent feature of that relationship.

By shining a light on this neglected aspect of literary lore, Something Rhymed brings female friendship out of the shadows.



Introduction Project with WINGS and ROOTS

Screening of short film "Where are you *from* from?" and discussion to be had in London in May, further details to follow.

WITH WINGS AND ROOTS: re:imagine belonging

WITH WINGS AND ROOTS is a documentary film and digital-media education project that seeks to bring new perspectives to the immigration and integration debates in the United States and Germany through the stories of artists and activists from immigrant families. Set in New York and Berlin, the transnational project produces cutting-edge tools (long and short form films, educational curricula, interactive web formats, workshops) to facilitate dialogue for more inclusive societies. To date, the project has released two award-winning shorts: "Article of Faith" and "Where are you *from* from?" while the feature length film and website are currently in production.

In an era of escalating anti-immigrant sentiment and Islamophobia, we share stories and resources to empower communities, shift discourses, build alliances and increase the voices of young people in debates about migration and inclusion.

www.withwingsandroots.com

<https://www.facebook.com/withWINGSandROOTS>

For further information contact Kerstin Meissner kermei@gmx.net

VII. CNR graduate programmes for 2014-2015

The MA, Postgraduate Masters, Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Associate Certificate programmes in Narrative Research at CNR, University of East London, are unique interdisciplinary programmes, drawing on social sciences and the humanities to provide graduate-level education in narrative theories and methods. The programmes give students experience in the application of narrative concepts and analysis to particular fields. The MA guides them through the planning and performance of a piece of advanced and original narrative research. In addition, the programmes develop more general skills of review, criticism, and team and individual research, all within the context of narrative research.

Modules can be taken singly or in combination, part- or full-time, and alongside other UEL Masters' level modules if required. Four modules and a dissertation yield a Masters in Narrative Research. Four modules (including other choices from the School of Law and Social Sciences or suitable other UEL graduate programmes) constitute a Postgraduate Diploma in Narrative Research. Two modules give a Postgraduate Certificate in Narrative Research. Students passing one module gain an Associate Postgraduate Certificate in Narrative Research. We also offer a 'portfolio' short course, Exploring Narrative Research, which provides 10 credits at Masters level.

The modules are suitable for participants from many disciplinary backgrounds. Participants take them as part of Masters programmes, as part of PhD training, as skills development for research in applied and community settings, and in order to expand their methodological range as academic researchers.

Narrative Research: Starting September 2014, by distance learning, with onsite and online tutorials.

This 30-credit module provides students with an overview of the range of narrative research methodologies. Beginning with an exploration of the meaning of narrative, the module outlines Labovian methods, biographical methods and context-oriented methods. It then considers three key fields of narrative research: oral, personal narratives; written narratives (including autobiographies and letters); and visual narratives. Through a range of theoretical perspectives, we shall be attempting to address a number of questions; for instance: How do people come to see themselves as distinct subjects about whom a story can be told? What role do memory, ideology, sense of audience, etc. play in people's accounts of their lives? How do class, ethnicity, gender and other social characteristics shape the stories people tell? What do we look for when we analyse accounts of people's lives?

Exploring Narrative Research: Starting February 2015.

This 10-credit short course encourages students to discover a variety of narrative methods and themes, by participating in a portfolio of events, critical readings, and narrative research exercises, which are put together in consultation with their tutor over the course of the semester. The module works at a variety of levels, depending on previous experience and events attended.

Topics on which students choose to focus could include: The nature of narrative, and narrative research; The place of narrative in identity and subjectivity; Narrative's significance for social change; Commonalities and differences across narrative media; Narrative and the social positions of gender, sexualities, 'race', age, ethnicity, nationality, religion, dis/ability.

For academic information, please email c.squire@uel.ac.uk and see <http://www.uel.ac.uk/cnr/ma-narrative.htm> and http://www.uel.ac.uk/dl/programmes/module_info/cert_narr_res.htm

Meet the 'Exploring Narrative Research' tutor:



Dr Emily Heavey, Research Associate at York St John University and Tutor at University of East London Exploring Narrative Research course

I completed my PhD at King's College London, analysing narratives of the experience of surgery and the post-surgical body. My research interests include narratives of personal experience, the performative and interactional nature of narrative, and the relevance of embodiment to narrative forms. I believe that narrative is a pervasive force in our lives, and a powerful tool for understanding one's own life and for connecting with the lives of others. I'm very excited about being involved in the Exploring Narrative Research short course at UEL; I

think it's a really effective way of helping PhD students and other researchers to discover the analytic techniques and philosophies within narrative research, and to apply them to their own research. As a tutor, I encourage students to think about a variety of narrative approaches, and to engage with and question them; I send out weekly group emails with suggested readings and events, and meet with individual students via Skype to discuss their particular narrative pursuits, interests, and challenges. My favourite thing about the course is seeing the diverse ways in which students engage with narrative, and watching them form their own ideas about what narrative means in the context of their own research.

Kerstin Meissner, student of 'Exploring Narrative Research' course



1. Who are you?

I am Kerstin (Meissner). I did my BA and MA in educational science at Free University Berlin, I live and work in Berlin and I am writing my PhD on concepts of belonging. I am interested in narrative research and the course mainly for my PhD but also because I do think that narratives are very powerful and important for social justice and change. They can give insights and open up the views we have on the world and people that surround us.

Besides the academic world I also work as a freelance educator mainly for different projects in Berlin dealing with anti-racism, right wing extremism prevention and democracy education in and outside of schools and as an educational advisor for a transmedia/ documentary project based in New York and Berlin called with WINGS and ROOTS: <http://www.withwingsandroots.com/> (you find more details below)

2. Why did you decide to do the course?

I was interested in narrative research for my PhD without really framing it as "narrative". I've been in contact with Molly since some time now and also subscribed to the CNR mailing list a while ago. In that sense I guess it was just a "perfect fit" to take the chance of participating in a course without the need to be (physically) present (though I am currently in London till May). As a PhD student without any graduate school I am used to work alone. But the course gave me a nice opportunity to have some topic related in depth exchange and insight on methodological approaches and questions. Emily is my tutor and I think she is really great in asking the right questions to support my own development and security with qualitative research and data.

3. What do you plan to use narrative research for?

The empirical part of my work is part of a project funded by the European Union between London and Berlin called "A second look". Within this project young people from both cities create a city3guide for each place talking about alternative spaces and places, telling their stories and presenting what they find is necessary to know when you visit one of these cities. I wanted to use the stories they write for my research but especially during my exchange with Emily I realised that it would be more interesting (and useful as well) to conduct interviews

with the participants in London and Berlin. That is one of the major outcomes of the course so far. I also find it really interesting (and challenging as well) to see the differences between the German and UK ways of doing/approaching narrative research.

4. Who are your favourite narrative writers?

Well, that's a difficult question to answer. So far I would say I really like Pierre Bourdieu's thoughts on language and symbolic power. Other than that I find Molly Andrews' and Corinne Squires' publications very useful.

VI. Reports of recent events

NOVELLA/CNR symposium

Mapping the present, envisioning the future: Stories as routes towards understanding and action, IOE 28 February 2014

CNR and NOVELLA co-organised a symposium on the power of narrative imagination in understanding and action. It was an intellectually stimulating day of presentations and discussions. The symposium introduced Molly and Corinne Squire's new books and discussed the themes of time and location in narrative research.

The symposium and book launch were rescheduled twice due to strike action that took place in February. When it finally took place, Molly Andrews was unfortunately unable to attend. Maria Tamboukou kindly stepped up to talk about Molly's work in her stead. Maria Tamboukou's opening talk elaborated on the notion of imagination, in conversation with Molly Andrews' argument about the connection between imagination and reality. Tamboukou also discussed how narrative imagination responded to the dynamic nature of temporality and helped us to understand the complexity of construction of the other.

Ann Phoenix (Thomas Coram Research Unit, Institute of Education, and NOVELLA) talked about her work on the situated imagination. Phoenix's talk focused on the power of narrative imagination in response to temporality and uncertainty. Drawing on her research with adults growing up in visibly ethnically mixed households, Phoenix explored the ways in which the participants' narratives of the past and present were interconnected with imagined futures.

Corinne Squire discussed how personal narratives of living with HIV in the UK and South Africa could be analysed as forms of microtheory, which helped to understand overlooked issues of the present, and open up a route towards more equitable futures.

Michael Murray (Centre for Psychological Research, Keele University) presented his analysis of social workers' personal narratives, which he collected for his research. Murray elaborated on the ways in which social workers constructed their narrative identities within the complexity of their professional position while working with communities. Jane Elliott (NOVELLA and Institute of Education) was the discussant.

Part of the afternoon was devoted to a collective exercise of making sense of the stories people tell about their lives. The symposium ended with an intense discussion on the position of researchers in imagining the future, in relation to past and present.

A formal book launch of *Narrative imagination and everyday life* (Oxford 2014) by Molly Andrews (NOVELLA and Centre for Narrative Research, University of East London) and *Living with HIV and ARVS: Three-letter Lives* (Palgrave 2013) by Corinne Squire (NOVELLA and Centre for Narrative Research, University of East London) took place after the symposium. Both books examine connections between the ways in which people narrate their current lived realities, their understandings of the present and its histories, and their construction of alternative storylines for the future.



My Baby Just Cares for Me: Love, Longing and Loss in the Life Stories of Indian Sex Workers

Professor Andrea Cornwall, Friday 28 March 2014 UEL

This paper introduced auto-biographical narratives told by members of the sex workers' collective VAMP (Veshya Anyay Mukti Parishad, Sex Workers' Freedom from Injustice Collective) and their lovers, as part of a project that sought to explore a dimension of sex workers' lives that is often neglected: their affective relationships. These stories revealed an alternative narrative about what it means to be a sex-worker in a post-colonial country. Instead of victim narratives, the participants spoke of sex work as a freedom from societal structures and a source of empowerment. The most important message they wanted to convey to Western readers was: stop trying to save us. The presentation was a reminder of the importance of allowing for multiple narratives and moving away from reductionist single stories that can be harmful for those they do not apply to. It opened a lively discussion about feminist research and research in post-colonial contexts. To find out more about this project, visit <http://saveusfromsavours.net/>



Andrea Cornwall is Professor of Anthropology and Development in the School of Global Studies at the University of Sussex, where she runs the Pathways of Women's Empowerment research consortium and works on the anthropology of democracy, sexualities and gender. Her latest book, co-edited with Susie Jolly and Kate Hawkins, is "Women, Sexuality and the Political Power of Pleasure" (Zed Books, 2013).



Interdisciplinarity in teaching and learning narrative: Crossing creative and critical boundaries

Friday 28th March 2014 The University of Brighton

Keynote Speakers Professor Corinne Squire – Centre for Narrative Research, University of East London Graham Rawle – Writer, artist and designer

University of Brighton Narrative has emerged as a vibrant field of academic enquiry with several research centres across the UK, dedicated international journals, and an emerging understanding of the importance of narrative beyond academic study in for example social change. Traditionally located in literary scholarship, narrative has developed a distinctive place in a variety of academic and professional fields including teachers' CPD, counselling and medical practice. In contemporary academia, narrative is a focus across a range of disciplinary areas including Illustration, Design, English Literature, Media, Film and Screen, History, Politics, English Language and Linguistics. It is incorporated into social enquiry in areas including conflict studies, migration and belonging, memory, identity, discourse studies and folklore. This one day workshop brought together scholars working in trans-disciplinary ways in Higher Education in order to explore the potential of narrative as both an interdisciplinary object of enquiry and a facilitator of that enquiry for academic and personal development.

Professor Corinne Squire presented her keynote speech 'Narrative as a Field of Enquiry' on the 28th March at a one day HEA workshop at the University of Brighton. Hosted by the School of Humanities, Faculty of Arts and the C21 Centre for Research in twenty-first century writings, the workshop focussed on Interdisciplinary in teaching and learning narrative. A diverse range of papers presented work in progress, research completed and new directions in the teaching and/or learning of narrative. Some work was theoretical, some stemming from creative endeavours and some empirical. The aim was to allow practitioners across disciplines to learn from and share with each other experiences from the classroom and the field. Corinne addressed fundamental questions about the nature of narrative and gave an illustration of her recent research conducted on the collection and analysis of visual autobiographies from an East London community. The event was well attended and served to illustrate the interest in the academy around the teaching and learning of narrative.