



Constructing narratives of continuity and change

An interdisciplinary conference at Canterbury Christ Church University
Saturday 12 May 2012 | 8.45am – 5.45pm | £25 per delegate
The Old Sessions House, Canterbury Campus

A one day conference to be held in Canterbury which will explore narratives of continuity and change in the context of a difficult and unpredictable world. Aimed at post graduate students, tutors and researchers, it will include presentations and workshops that embrace auto/biography and narrative research within education, and across a range of disciplines and professional sectors.

[Auto/biography and Narrative Research Theme Group](#)

Canterbury Christ Church University is home to an extensive body of research in the broad field of auto/biographical narrative studies and life history. There is a thematic group that brings together academics from different disciplines, with particular strengths in education, health and social care studies. The thematic group has provided a base for major funded research, which includes a recent EU Lifelong Learning financed study of non-traditional learners in universities, in 8 countries (RANLHE). There is also extensive work on narrative and careers counselling, as well as on life writing, life stories and community development. The group contains a substantial cluster of doctoral students, who are using these methods to chronicle and theorise change processes in diverse contexts.

Faculty of Education

www.canterbury.ac.uk/education/conferences

Keynote speakers

Molly Andrews is Professor of Sociology, and Co-director of the Centre for Narrative Research (www.uel.ac.uk/cnr/index.htm) at the University of East London, England. Her research interests include the psychological basis of political commitment, psychological challenges posed by societies in transition to democracy, patriotism, conversations between generations, gender and aging, and counter-narratives.

Laura Formenti, PhD in Education, psychologist and psychotherapist, is Associate Professor at the Department of Human Sciences for Education, Università degli Studi di Milano Bicocca (Italy), where she teaches General Pedagogy and Family Counselling.

Professor Linden West is a Director of Research Development, Canterbury Christ Church University, Visiting Professor, Paris Nanterre and co-coordinator of a European Biographical Research Network. His books include *Using Biographical Methods in Social Research* (Sage), *Beyond Fragments*, adults, motivation and higher education (Taylor and Francis). He is presently co-editing a collection for Karnac on psychoanalysis and education.

Themes of the conference

The conference themes are as follows:

- Narrative and auto/biography: self/other, immediacy/memory
- Whose story? What the researcher brings to the story told
- Reflexivity and its parameters: power and unconscious processes
- Narratives of adult learners in turbulent times
- Creating spaces for learning and knowing
- The role of narrative in managing change
- Connecting the big and the intimate pictures in a 'runaway world'
- Interdisciplinary and auto/biographical narrative research
- Beyond words: other ways of representing lives
- Stories of resistance and resilience.

Book your place

You can now book your place online and see the full programme of abstracts at: www.canterbury.ac.uk/education/conferences

For more information, please phone 01892 507500
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