Programme

Suicidology’s Cultural Turn, and Beyond
March 19–20 2016

Venue
— Vila Lanna, Prague, Czech Republic

Organizing institutions
— The Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences, v.v.i.
— The School of Social Work, Wayne State University

Organizers
— Luděk Brož, Michael Kral

Organizing Committee
— Ian Marsh, Daniel Münster, Jennifer White

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Strategy AV21
Top research in the public interest
Friday, March 18th

18:00 registration — to 19:00
19:00 reception — to 22:00

Saturday, March 19th

8:40 registration — to 9:00

Session 1 — chair: Michael KRAL

9:00 Welcome Address: Marek HRUBEC, director of the research programme “Global Conflicts and Local Interactions” under Strategy AV21

Introduction: Suicidology’s cultural turn, and beyond.
— Luděk BROŽ (Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences)

The radical contingency of the suicidal subject? Anthropology and historical phenomenology as critical perspectives.
— Ian MARSH (Canterbury Christ Church University)

Suicidology: An obstacle to a culturally informed study of suicide.
— Eva Yampolsky (University of Lausanne and Centre Alexandre Koyré) Howard Kushner (Emory University and University of California)

Going in circles, getting nowhere? A critical look at current suicide research.
— Heidi HJELMELAND (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Birthe Loa KNIZEK (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

Community-based suicide prevention in low-middle income countries: What’s the ‘export’?
— Erminia COLUCCI (Queen Mary University of London)

10:30

Session 2 — chair: Daniel Münster

11:00 Innovation without change: Suicide prevention is going nowhere.
— Colin TATZ (Australian National University)

Towards ethics of wonder and generosity in critical suicidology.
— Katrina JAWORSKI (University of South Australia)

The Ethics of Suicide: Historical Sources.
— Margaret BATTIN (University of Utah)

Disruptive potential: Understanding how critical suicidology and the anthropological underpinnings of narrative therapy can collide, to support an up-close analysis of suicide, with the potential of shifting policy and practice.
— Jonny MORRIS (University of Victoria)

12:30 lunch — to 14:00

Session 3 — chair: Ian Marsh

14:00 What can critical suicidology do?
— Jennifer WHITE (University of Victoria)

Community-driven suicide prevention among Inuit in Arctic Canada: a new model.
— Michael KRAL (Wayne State University)
Access dilemma in suicide research: The empowering role of formal system engagement on suicide survivors.

— Johnny ANDOH-ARTHUR (Norwegian University of Science and Technology and Sor-Trøndelag University College), Birthe Loa KNIZEK (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Heidi HJELMELAND (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Joseph OSAFO (University of Ghana)

At the limits of suicide: The bad timing of the gift.

— Katrina JAWORSKI (University of South Australia), Daniel G. SCOTT (University of Victoria)

Understanding suicidal behaviour in Ghana: A contestation between moral transgression and health crisis.

— Joseph OSAFO (University of Ghana), Charity AKOTIA (University of Ghana), Birthe Loa KNIZEK (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Heidi HJELMELAND (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

Session 4 — chair: Jonny Morris

16:00 Making sense of farmers’ suicides: Vernacular diagnosis in the context of agrarian crisis.

— Daniel MÜNSTER (Heidelberg University)

Suicide as artifact: The myth of the suicidal Maya and the politics of heritage in Yucatan, Mexico.

— Beatriz REYES-FOSTER (University of Central Florida)

“I don’t feel sad about death, but my soul will rest in peace if Telangana is given.”

Contextualizing suicide protest in an Indian regionalist movement.

— Lorenz GRAITL (Humboldt University)

17:00

The meaning of life. (movie)

17:15

18:45 — Hugh BRODY (University of the Fraser Valley)

Sunday, March 20th

Session 5 — chair: Katrina Jaworski

9:00 An incarnated and humane phenomenological perspective to self-imposed death: The stories of U.S. Air Force members.

— Marcela POLANCO (Our Lady of the Lake University), Tirzah SHELTON (Our Lady of the Lake University), Sarai MANCIAS (Our Lady of the Lake University)

Being more than just your final act: Elevating the multiple storylines of suicide with narrative practices.

— Marine SATHER (University of Melbourne), David NEWMAN

Suicide thoughts. From suffering to risk.

— Justyna ZIÓŁKOWSKA (University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Poland), Dariusz GALASINSKI (University of Wolverhampton)

Caduti in acqua: The origins of humane societies and lifesaving in suicide prevention.

— Maria Teresa BRANCACCIO (Maastricht University), David LEDERER (National University of Ireland Maynooth)

10:30
Session 6 — chair: Jennifer White

11:00 Rituals and communication styles connected to suicide among the Baganda: Qualitative research where no suicide research previously has been conducted.
— James MUGISHA (Kyambogo University), Birthe Loa KNIZEK (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Eugene KINYANDA (MRC/UVRI Uganda research Unit on AIDS), Heidi HJELMELAND (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

“I’m not killing myself. Cancer is killing me.” On the use of suicide in discourses on physician aid-in-dying in the United States.
— Caitlin CASSADY (Wayne State University)

Suicides of the marginalised – asylum seekers, indigenous and queer youth: cultural approaches to relationality, mobility and liveable lives.
— Rob COVER (The University of Western Australia)

“99% of suicides are tragic; we’re fighting for the other 1%”: ‘Sound minds’ and unsound bodies in right to die activism.
— Ari GANDSMAN (University of Ottawa)

12:30 lunch — to 14:00

Session 7 — chair: Luděk Brož

14:00 Intervention techniques social workers and instructors use for suicidal individuals in an educational setting.
— Susan WOODS (Wayne State University)

Four moral discourses as the basis of attitude formation among health personnel in Uganda.
— Birthe Loa KNIZEK (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Eugene KINYANDA, Charity AKOTIA (University of Ghana), Heidi HJELMELAND (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

Traditional healers talk about suicide and suicide prevention in South Africa.
— Jason BANTJES (Stellenbosch University), Leslie SWARTZ (Stellenbosch University), Sithembile CEMBI (Stellenbosch University)

Community cultural response to suicide.
— Leslie MCGREGOR (Whitefish River Community Health Canter, Birch Island, ON Canada)

15:30 Conclusion: Beyond the given in suicidology.
— Michael KRAL (Wayne State University)