Thursday the 18th of September, 14.00 – 17.30

1) CABLE - developing learning and service models for Diaconia and Christian social practice - a participatory workshop

14.00 – 15.30, 16.00 – 17.30  
Room; Stora Salen, First Floor  
Organizers: Rob van Waarde, Jouko Porkka with members of the CABLE network core group  
Presentation of the workshop;

Researchers and trainers cooperate within CABLE in order to develop learning and service models for Diaconia and Christian social practice. One aspect of CABLE, which we will present in this workshop is the exposure approach. Exposure is a specific approach for working with people suffering from exclusion and marginalization. It comprises a way of experience-based learning. By means of a receptive attitude the approach allows diaconal and missionary professionals to work with marginalized people on the basis of equality and co-production. Equal relations prove to be crucial for increased empowerment of people in these social contexts. This requires the professionals to be aware of their biographical background and socialization. Exposure clarifies and deepens the relation between public space, biography, spirituality, motivation and work practice. While this approach leads to a strong and servant type of leadership on the part of the professionals, the local residents, the homeless, the substance misusers, the migrants, and other groups become involved in their own processes of empowerment.

CABLE stands for Community Action Based Learning for Empowerment. The CABLE-network creates a practice of mutual learning from different contexts. It involves a cooperation of universities and training organisations in countries across Europe: the Netherlands, Finland, the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom. We have CABLE members in Austria (Cardijn) and Central and Eastern Europe. In the workshop we will focus on one aspect of CABLE: exposure. We will introduce the approach as an instigation towards developing a research network.

The workshop allows participants to practice the exposure approach, gain an understanding of the type of learning outcomes it generates, and explore the relation to motivation in work. Part of the workshop is a visit to a Stockholm neighbourhood, after which plenary reflection will take place. Additionally, as an example, the effects of the exposure approach on diaconal work in Finland will be elaborated.

Programme

- Introduction  
- Exposure in city of Stockholm  
- Share findings  
- Reflection: implications for practice  
- Example: the potential of exposure in the context of Finland  
- Next steps for the network

Aim: The participants have gained insight in the potential contribution of the exposure approach for diaconal and mission work with marginalized people. They have experienced the effect of the outside (urban) world on their inner world. They have reflected on the role of their biography and socialization in the process of observation and perception. The participants have explored the relation to their work, by exploring the role of their motivation. The higher-level aim of this workshop is to create a research network on CABLE related themes: learning, practice, theology, relation to context etc…

Network Core Group: CABLE – Community Action Based Learning for Empowerment

- Rob van Waarde, Protestant Theological University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
- Jouko Porkka, DIAK Diaconia University of Applied Sciences, Järvenpää, Finland  
- Tony Addy, Cardijn Verein, Linz, Austria and interdic  
- Fokje Wierdsma, Training Center Kor Schippers, Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
- Katri Valve, Vantaa Parish Association, Finland
2) Research and Practice in Diaconia. How research projects can support the daily job and improve the organization

14.00 – 15.30, 16.00 – 17.30
Room; Aulan, Second Floor
Presentation of the workshop;

With this workshop we are going to give an overview about research activities of Diaconia (e.g. in Austria). Diaconia is one of the biggest organizations in Europe and has the possibility to support a social vision of Europe and give ethical guidance to research projects.

Topic: 1st Session
- Project overview (Johanniter/Diakonia)
- Getting involved in research projects
- Thematic funding opportunities
- How to apply

2nd Session
- Resources and competencies of Diaconia
- Christian values as ethical guidance for research

3) YOMA. Methodological and ethical considerations when researching the role of religion and religious organisations in the every-day lives of young people at the margins of society

16.00 – 17.30
Room; Sal 4, Second Floor
Chair/coordinators: Clint Le Bruyns, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, Lebruyns@ukzn.ac.za
Annette Leis-Peters, Diakonhjemmet University College, annette.leis-peters@diakonhjemmet.no
Contributors and themes:

Christina Landman, University of South Africa – Mapping as action research in the context of religion and youth research
Kari Jordheim/Olav Helge Angell Diakonhjemmet University College – The use of maps as a method in youth and community research
Hannelie Yates, North West University, South Africa – Obtaining ethical clearance to do research on youth: a South African case study
Obaji Agbiji, University of South Africa – Ethical and methodological considerations in researching young people: perspective from a recent publication
Anna Juntunen, University of Helsinki – The use of photography as a method in youth research

The contributors provide 7 minutes (5 x 7 min. = 35 minutes) input which is then followed by common discussion (50 min).

The objective of the workshop is to discuss methodological and ethical issues and challenges when studying and researching the role of religion and religious organisations in the every-day lives of young people at the margins of society. The workshop derives from a recently launched South African-Nordic European research project.
(YOMA) aiming to study the nature and extent to which religion in general and faith-based organisations in particular contribute to social cohesion in the way they relate to marginalised youth at the local level in South Africa and in Nordic countries (see Swart 2013). In accordance with the framework of NEETs (Eurofound 2012), 50% of all young people between 20 and 24 in South Africa are not in education, employment or training. At the same time, 60-67% of the whole population of the country is under 30 (Craise & Booyens 2010). New ways of integration going beyond but also taking into account the confines of education and employment must therefore be found. But what are the resources to meet such integration? YOMA departs from the South African social context and is comparative in design, comprising parallel case studies and conceptual work in South Africa, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

References:


---

1 Youth at the margins: a comparative study of the contribution of faith-based organisations to social cohesion in South Africa and Nordic Europe (2013-2016).
Friday

4) Faith and Community Working Group
14.00 – 15.30, 16.00 – 17.30
Room: Aulan, Second Floor
Organizers; Raili Gothóni, The Diaconia University of Applied Sciences  Email: raili.gothoni@diak.fi, Annette Leis-Peters, Diakonhjemmet University College, Email: annette.leis-peters@diakonhjemmet.no
Presentation of the workshop;

The workshop organisers invite researchers, teachers and practitioners in the fields of diaconal work, social work youth work and related fields who are interested in this issue to participate in the Workshop, the Working Group and the emerging network. At the Stockholm conference, the workshop will offer an opportunity to focus on the theme in general and also have a special focus on the experience of marginalised young people. Accordingly the sessions will be divided into a general session and a session that opens the theme toward a special concern with the experience of marginalised young people. The workshop will also be open to other contributions from participants on other themes. The workshop will conclude with agreement for plans for the three year period up to and beyond the next ReDi conference in 2016.

Workshop Session One – Setting the Scene
Context. The present day context of super-diversity has been marked by a remarkable increase in interest in religion and spirituality. Research shows that religion and spirituality are very important in the lives of many people, especially those who are marginalised, but it usually remains ‘invisible’ to those in social service structures and is often misread by diaconal workers with a church socialisation. Furthermore, policy makers tend not to take the factor of religion and spirituality into account in the formulation of policy – and in some instances only as an aspect of combating extremism.

Rationale and Research Themes
Diaconia operates in the context of sociocultural pluralism, individualism and spiritual idiosyncrasy. The religious landscape in Europe is changing. A variety of forms of religious expressions are influencing the membership of communities. Alongside new forms of religious expression, irreligion has emerged as an observable reality. The first session of the faiths and community workshop is for research in relation to such questions such as: What does this change mean for diaconia, health care and social services? How is religious diversity accounted for in the teaching for professionals and volunteers in the field of diaconia? How can the skills of spiritual sensitivity and religious literacy benefit people's welfare, social inclusion and their experience of dignity? These questions give rise to the need for research into such concepts as dignity and citizenship and practice related concepts such as dialogue, conviviality and religious literacy. We anticipate that what is learnt about the role of faiths, religion and diverse worldviews in combating marginalisation, exclusion and inequality and in building sustainable community will have wide-reaching applicability within welfare practice and policy formation.

Content and Process
The members of the planning group guarantee to provide quality papers for this session and to organise the process to involve wider participants in the ReDi Conference who are or who wish to be engaged with this theme.

Workshop Session Two- Specific Themes
Example: ‘Faiths and worldviews in the encounter between young people and social and diaconal services’

Introduction. This session is intended to open specific themes for exploration within the general issue of faiths and community. The planning group decided for contextual reasons to focus on work with and experiences of marginalised young people.

Rationale: There is a need to explore what the norms, values and attitudes and expectations of young people are in relation to public policy, social justice and towards social and health care service providers.

Research Questions. The researchers want to explore the experiences of young people, especially examining how the questions of faith and worldview are taken up in their encounter with social and health care professionals. What interactions are there between young people's own faiths and worldviews and those of service providers? Furthermore, in what way are these questions reflected in policy making and in the training of professionals in the field? Do young people's faith and worldviews have any impact on policy making?
Process of Workshop. Building on the overview developed in the first session, the aim of the workshop is to share the work of the planning group on the specific topic and to invite others who may have relevant research or experience and to share relevant papers. In the ensuing discussion the issues will be deepened and sharpened. The existing partners are planning to submit an application to a number of funding bodies to support research and development in the specific topic of the workshop. A potential research plan will be shared. An open discussion will be organised to identify other follow up issues and to clarify the work of the group for the next three years.

Proposed ReDi Working Group Faiths and Community

Experience so far. A group of researchers from six Universities have been collaborating on the development of a long-term project that began with an exploration of human dignity and poverty and has now evolved to concentrate on the overall theme ‘Faiths and Community’. Various theoretical approaches are included for example the work on the concept of religious literacy advanced by Adam Dinham (London), the research programme: Diversity, ‘philosophy of life’ - encounter of religions in social work’ developed by Ella van’t Hof (Utrecht) and the ethnographic action research approach of Sari Hamar (Helsinki)

Proposal. Under the theme ‘Faiths and Community’, the aim of the international cooperation is to combine international partners’ high-level competences in teaching and RDI activities and to strengthen the partnerships in order to build more strategic long-term cooperation. This can include joint research projects. The partners undertake to continue to develop the research group in the next three-year period. New research activities will be developed and one specific proposal is for a project on the theme ‘Faiths and worldviews in the encounter between young people and social and diaconal services’. For each research activity different combinations of the partner institutions are expected to be involved along with other relevant organisations that may also include practitioners and service, coordinating & advocacy organisations etc.

The group will also organise a workshop at the ReDi conference in 2016. As well as research activities the group may also develop common teaching including web-based learning, webinars, common study units and joint intensive courses which could be developed around the theme. As the work develops, curriculum development and student, teacher and staff mobility developed. According to the issues raised and the needs of particular projects, the group may become involved with partners in advocacy work towards policy makers as an outcome or research and teaching.

Next Steps

For the Workshop. If the workshop proposal is accepted, the appointed organising group will prepare the precise process for the two sessions and will liaise with the Conference Planning Group concerning which papers will be included in the workshop sessions. Some members of the group or related Universities have already submitted papers that have been accepted.

For the ReDi ‘Faiths and Community Working Group. The research group has appointed a group that will finalise the application for the working group immediately after the conference in Stockholm.

Planning Group Members:

- Diakonia University of Applied Sciences (Diak): Church and Society (Dr. Raili Gothóni)
- Diakonhjemmet: Diaconia, in particular the new doctoral programme (Director Annette Leis-Peters)
- Goldsmiths University of London: Faith-based community work, religious literacy (Prof. Adam Dinham)
- Heidelberg University: Diakoniewissenschafts Institut (Director: Prof. Johannes Eurich)
- Katholische Hochschule: Nordrhein-Westfalen: Intercultural social work and religious dialogue (Prof. Josef Freise)
- Utrecht University of Applied Sciences: Diversity, ‘philosophy of life’ - encounter of religions in social work (Dr. Ella van’t Hof)
- ReDi: Chairperson, Tony Addy

5) Volunteering. The churches and the role of volunteering in welfare and wellbeing

14.00 – 15.30
Room; Sal 4, Second Floor
Contact Person: Martha Middlemiss Lé Mon, martha.middlemiss@crs.uu.se

Core group: Martha Middlemiss Lé Mon (Uppsala Religion and Society Research Centre, Sweden), Anna Ardin (Forum, Sweden), Elizabeth Hjalmarsson (Church of Sweden), Olav Helge Angell (Diakonhjemmet University College, Norway).

Presentation of the workshop;

Within the framework of the EU-Commission programme "Europe for Citizens" Forum (the umbrella organisation for Swedish NGOs involved in social work) has received funding for a project in Sweden working with the dissemination of knowledge on and advancement of discussion and debate around issues concerning the churches and the role of volunteering in welfare and wellbeing. The Swedish organisers of the workshop are all part of this project. One of the main focus areas in research at Diakonhjemmet University College (DUC) is the role of volunteering and (religious) organisations in welfare and health care. There is an interdisciplinary research group that includes among other things several PhD projects within the field and within DUCs recently established PhD programme “Diaconia, Values and Professional Practice”.

The workshop will focus in particular on the contribution which volunteering makes to the wellbeing and welfare of individuals (not least the elderly), with consideration paid both to the individuals as volunteers and as recipients of care in the welfare sector provided by volunteers. The churches form the particular focus given the important role they have played in welfare issues in the past, the roles which they play within civil society and the welfare arena in their respective countries, which are illustrative of distinctive elements of the national context and the current debate in Europe concerning the future of the welfare state in an age of financial austerity in which the churches in particular amongst other organizations in civil society are often paid particular attention. One question of interest to researchers and practitioners alike is whether such attention is justified, what implications can it have for both the organizations and individuals involved and what implications can it have for the development of civil society and the role of volunteering in the welfare arena in Europe today?

The study of welfare and religion and in particular studies of the role of churches as actors and voices in the welfare sector as organizations in civil society and the particular role of volunteers within this is a developing field. There is however a clear gap in the information currently available on the specific area of focus for this workshop and aims will be to pool and share knowledge amongst participants, highlight gaps in knowledge, identify new avenues for research and potentially also new networks of interested individuals for collaboration on these issues.


16.00 – 17.30
Room; Sal 4, Second floor
Organizers;
Dr Dave Furze, Jehovah Jireh, The Physgtle, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks, SL9 0JT
Short CV
2008 to present: Founder and director of Footprints, a freelance consultant in community development and social transformation.
1999 to 2008: Team Leader Community Development, Wycombe District Council, Buckinghamshire, UK
1991 to 1999: Project Leader, Urban Action Manchester (Youth For Christ), UK
1984 to 1991: Senior Research Fellow, Brunel University, Uxbridge UK

Currently
Chair Trustees, Church’s Community Work Alliance, CCWA,
Board Director of Social Audit Network, SAN
Chair of Beyond Difference, Chiltern Interfaith Network, Buckinghamshire, UK
Project Coordinator, Community Transform (Our Place Community Hub), High Wycombe, UK
See attached profile (DF)

Jim Robertson, University Higher Education background: Senior Lecturer in Community Work Studies, Northumbria University UK.
Currently
Acting Chief Officer with Churches Regional Commission, CRC in North East England
Research and practice interests in community development and social policy research. Special interest
in faith based social action and the characteristics of personal and community resilience.
Member of the Iona Community
Trustee of Church’s Community Work Alliance, CCWA
Founder member of CABLE project.
Programme tutor Faith in Community learning programme, FIC, UK.
English Standards Board, The Endorsement and Quality Standards Board for Community
Development (www.esbendorsement.org.uk)
Bristol, Policy Press with Sarah Banks, Hugh Butcher, Paul Henderson and Jim Robertson, ISBN
978144730124

Presentation of the workshop:

Why does this topic seem relevant and important?

It is surprising how many organisations do not have explicit mission, values, and objectives … even loosely defined
measures to reflect on the impact on their work and initiatives. Experience of faith motivated projects and innovative
activities in the UK and other European countries suggest that such ideas are not universally looked at or reviewed
and for some remain only in the confines of funding applications or business plans. In fact, it is surprising how
many organisations have different sets of objectives! Often tailoring them to different criteria set out by different
funders or sponsoring bodies. Although many will be asked by funders to account for the outputs (activities and
numbers participating) of their projects, few will attempt to account for the outcomes (the effects or difference)
particularly the soft outcomes brought about by their activity. We hope to have input from a range of types and size
of diaconal organisation from many different nationalities to share and compare their interest, experience and needs
regarding outcome evaluation and impact measurement.

The case will be discussed that it is an important task to get an organisation or specific project to be clear about what
it wants to achieve and how, but also to ask what impact they bring. There is some evidence too that this may
require a major cultural shift within some organisations, and a sharper empowering recognition that it is important
for an organisation to have the confidence to ‘own’ its own objectives and expected outcomes. Our own experience
is this can achieved if organisations embed social accounting (see www.socialauditnetwork.org) processes within their
everyday practice; this will be presented. Opportunity will be given to those attending to share experience of
different models for evaluating impact and social value to give a balanced and informed perspective.

The aim of this workshop and presentation will be to explore:

a) why it is important for church and faith organisation projects to clarify and define their intentions: their
mission, aims, values, objectives and outcomes (expected and unintentional, positive and negative)
b) how participants in the session currently evaluate and reflect on the impact of their work including social
accounting processes on the triple bottom line of local social, economic and environmental impact
c) introduce participants to techniques developed in UK relating to social accounting and impact
measurement
d) explore the possibility of develop a network of researchers, trainers, managers and practitioners who wish
to explore this field further and be supportive of each other in the mapping and evaluating of impact and
social value. Creating a resource of good practice models that could be on the ReDi or Social Audit
Network web sites?
e) exploring the development of a ReDi research network interested in social impact and social value
evaluation studies.

The perspective will be argued that church and faith based organisations are living organisms with many functions
and roles; and perhaps involved in a multifarious range of activities. They are influenced by a plethora of external
factors and forces internal and external to the organisation. In this new age of austerity, cuts in public service delivery
and shifts in how faith-based work is viewed, some may see it as diaconia under pressure while others view it as
evolving opportunities to be a part of the new social economy. Also new funding regimes and public procurement
policies and regulations often require extensive evaluation and this also may be seen as a pressure or a chance to
work to improve activities. It is essential therefore that in this context organisations have a clear idea of what it is
they are doing and why, what impact and what social value (socially, economically and environmentally) it is trying to achieve and most importantly the impact it actually has.

Proposal:
To organise an open workshop and presentation of the issues at the ReDi biennial conference in 2014, this will lead to an action research network focussing on measuring impact. The group would organise inter-conference gatherings and possibly make application for grants to fund joint European projects that will establish what level of impact measurement work is currently taking place, promote more impact measurement amongst diaconal organisations and to stimulate excellence. If the group is formed it would also be in a position to organise participative workshops at the ReDi biannual conferences in 2016 and 2018.

A plan for the next international conference session (Sept 2014) including themes and speakers.
A participative action research and peer learning workshop (1.5 hrs)
- Measurement and meaning of social impact and social value
- Evaluation of diaconia and Christian social practice across Europe
- Models for social impact measurement including a short presentation on social accounting and audit ([www.socialauditnetwork.org](http://www.socialauditnetwork.org))
- Initiate discussion about potential CCWA/SAN/ ReDi research project on “Effective Social Impact and Social Value Measurement in European Diaconia and Christian Social Practice”