Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain pesgb



Seminar Series Call for Papers

"Towards a Transitionalist Critique of Education" 14 & 15 March 2016, University of Roehampton, London

Proposals for papers are invited on topics related to transitionalist pragmatism and education.

Koopman (2009) and others (Goldman, 2012; Rosiek, 2013; Koopman, 2013) have argued that pragmatism is entering into a new 'third wave' that advances beyond the limitations of Dewey's metaphysics of experience (largely ascendent from the 1900s to the 1940s) and Rorty's linguistic turn philosophy (largely ascendent from the 1960s to the 1990s). What Koopman terms 'transitionalist pragmatism' has potential relevance for i) philosophy of education perspectives on pragmatism, and ii) revised accounts of teaching relationships, including but not confined to ethical, ontological, epistemological, aesthetic and political aspects. Koopman's work is beginning to be used in a variety of contexts including democracy education, moral philosophy, political studies, landscape studies and qualitative research. The seminar series will explore how transitionalism offers additional possibilities for interesting research in philosophy of education with considerable implications for educational policy and practice.

Keynote papers

Colin Koopman, University of Oregon; Gert Biesta, Brunel University; Andrew Stables, University of Roehampton

Seminar format

Two seminars running on consecutive days. Each day will have eight selected papers organised into four ninety-minute sessions.

Paper proposals are invited on the following topics.

Day 1 (14 March 2016) Contemporary pragmatism and philosophy of education

Day 2 (15 March 2016) Pragmatism and contemporary educational theory

For the second day, contributions on the following topics will be particularly welcomed: Agamben and the critical tradition; Braidotti and posthumanism; Cultural Political Economy approaches; Genealogical approaches.

The eight paper presenters will have their full travel and accommodation costs met. Participation for non-presenters is free but there are limited spaces. It is hoped that seminar participants who are not presenting may have some of their costs reimbursed. There will be a seminar dinner on the evening of 14 March.

After discussions with the Editor, it is anticipated that the seminar series will result in a proposal for a Special Edition of the Journal of Philosophy of Education.

There will be a third seminar held in late Summer 2016 at Bath Spa University exploring how the transitionalist critique of education developed in the first two days will have impact upon educational policy and practice. Enquiries and informal proposals are welcome.

Important Dates and Information

Proposals should be complete or substantially developed

31 October 2015 Proposal submission date: Notification of decisions: 8 January 2016

Please address all enquiries and submissions in the first instance to

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