

Philosophical Issues in Psychiatry IV: Psychiatric Nosology

Conference September 9-11, 2015

Sponsored by the Mental Health Services - Capital Region of Denmark (MHS)

Organized jointly by the MHS, the Psychiatric Center Hvidovre and the Center for Subjectivity Research, University of Copenhagen.

Conference Outline:

This conference has four sessions covering seven general topics over the two and a half days:

Session One (Nature of Psychiatric Illness):

The nature of psychiatric illness and the way we define them – how do we set the limits of what is a psychiatric disorder. We want to ground this discussion in practical examples from DSM or ICD

Session Two (Reification (i), Epidemics (ii) and Individual Symptoms (iii)):

- i. The problem of criteria “reification”. What reification is (and is it one thing or several) and why it occurs is a worthy topic of sustained consideration. It is generally accepted that diagnostic criteria only index disorder but do not constitute them, but in practice this rule is not always followed despite concerns about reification
- ii. The “epidemics” of individual psychiatric disorders – what social and biomedical factors contribute to “popularity” of individual disorders – consider PTSD, borderline personality, autism spectrum, multiple personality disorder and “mad travelers.”
- iii. The definition of individual symptoms or signs. How to consider the nature (ontology) of a symptom, its individuation, potentially constitutive relations to other phenomena.

Session Three (Epistemic Iteration):

A critique of the concept of epistemic iteration, esp. in light of the experience in DSM-5 with the Scientific Review committee. Can such a model work? What are its key limitations?

Session Four (Descriptive to Etiologic (i) and Living Document (ii)):

- i. How can we actually move from descriptive to etiologically based diagnoses?
- ii. The advantages and disadvantages of moving from a model in which we revise our diagnostic manuals every 10-15 years to a living document model.

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Wednesday September 9, 2015

Outline	Speaker	Title	Time
Welcome & Opening Comments	J Parnas & K Kendler		9:00-9:20
Session 1 Nature of Psychiatric Illness			
Chairman: Paul Appelbaum			
Guest Presenter Session 1	D Bolton	Clinical significance, disability and biomarkers: shifts in thinking between DSM-IV and DSM-5	9:20-9:50
Invited Discussion	P Zachar		9:50-10:00
General Discussion			10:00-10:20
BREAK			
			10:20-10:35
Guest Presenter Session 1	E Turkheimer	Psychiatric Diagnosis as a Problem in Multidimensional Characterization of Persons: The Curse of Dimensionality	10:35-11:05
Invited Discussion	D Borsboom		11:05-11:15
General Discussion			11:15-11:35
LUNCH			
			11:35-12:45
Guest Presenter Session 1	D Stein	Obsessive-compulsive and related disorders in DSM-5, ICD-11, and RDoC: Conceptual questions and practical solutions	12:45-13:15
Invited Discussion	M Solomon		13:15-13:25
General Discussion			13:25-13:45
Guest Presenter Session 1	D Borsboom	Mental disorders, network models, and dynamical systems	13:45-14:15
Invited Discussion	E Turkheimer		14:15-14:25
General Discussion			14:25-14:45
BREAK			
			14:45-15:00
Session 2 Reification (i), Epidemics (ii) and Individual Symptoms (iii)			
Chairman: Peter Zachar			
Guest Presenter Session 2i	P Hoff	On reification of mental illness: Historical and conceptual issues from Kraepelin and Bleuler to DSM-5	15:00-15:30
Invited Discussion	D Stein		15:30-15:40
General Discussion			15:40-16:00
Guest Presenter Session 2ii	M First	What it means for there to be an epidemic (i.e., how a psychiatric epidemic would be defined and detected), the causes for such epidemics, and the role of the DSM in creating such epidemics	16:00-16:30
Invited Discussion	J Parnas		16:30-16:40
General Discussion			16:40-17:00

8 hours

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Thursday September 10, 2015

Session 2 continued			
Chairman: Peter Zachar			
Outline	Speaker	Title	Time
Guest Presenter Session 2ii	D Murphy	Describing and Modeling the Culture-Bound Syndromes	9:00-9:30
Invited Discussion	P Appelbaum		9:30-9:40
General Discussion			9:40-10:00
Guest Presenter Session 2ii	M Solomon	Discuss the consequences of disappearing the Asperger's diagnosis and the possibilities for adjusting the diagnostic categories in the future (along with the new category of social communication disorder)	10:00-10:30
Invited Discussion	M First		10:30-10:40
General Discussion			10:40-11:00
BREAK			
Guest Presenter Session 2iii	J Parnas	Ontology and epistemology of symptom: The case of auditory-verbal hallucinations (AVH) in schizophrenia.	11:15-11:45
Invited Discussion	P Hoff		11:45-11:55
General Discussion			11:55-12:15
LUNCH			
Session 3 Epistemic Iteration			
Chairman: Kenneth Schaffner			
Guest Presenter Session 3	H Chang	Epistemic iteration and natural kinds	13:25-13:55
Invited Discussion	K Kendler		13:55-14:05
General Discussion			14:05-14:25
Guest Presenter Session 3	J Campbell	Is Epistemic Iteration a Mark of Validity	14:25-14:55
Invited Discussion	D Murphy		14:55-15:05
General Discussion			15:05-15:25
BREAK			
Guest Presenter Session 3	P Zachar	Epistemic iteration or paradigm shift: the troubling case of personality disorder	15:40-16:10
Invited Discussion	J Campbell		16:10-16:20
General Discussion			16:20-16:40
Guest Presenter Session 3	K Kendler	Progressive Validation of Psychiatric Syndromes: The Example of Panic Disorder	16:40-17:10
Invited Discussion	K Schaffner & K Tabb		17:10-17:20
General Discussion			17:20-17:40

7 hours 40 minutes

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Friday September 11, 2015

Session 4 Descriptive to Etiologic (i) and Living Document (ii)

Chairman: Dominic Murphy

Outline	Speaker	Title	Time
Guest Presenter Session 4i	K Schaffner & K Tabb	Random Walks and Tortuous Paths: Moving from the Descriptive to the Etiological in Psychiatry	9:00-9:30
Invited Discussion	H Chang		9:30-9:40
General Discussion			9:40-10:00
Guest Presenter Session 4i	S Heckers	What is progress in psychiatric research?	10:00-10:30
Invited Discussion	D Bolton		10:30-10:40
General Discussion			10:40-11:00
BREAK			11:00-11:15
Guest Presenter Session 4ii	P Appelbaum	DSM-5.1: Perspectives on continuous improvement in diagnostic frameworks	11:15-11:45
Invited Discussion	S Heckers		11:45-11:55
General Discussion			11:55-12:15
Closing Comments	K Kendler & J Parnas		12:15-12:35

3 hours 35 minutes