Second Annual Conference

Capitalism, Social Science and the Platform University

Talks: **15 min presentation** + 10 min questions (25 min maximum)

**Thursday, 28 November 2019**

_The Storey, Meeting House Lane, Lancaster, LA1 1TH_

9.00 – 9.15 Registration (and dinner payments – see practical information)

9.15 – 9.30 Welcome

Janja Komljenovic, Lancaster University, Director of the Centre for Higher Education Research and Evaluation

9.30 – 11.10 Session 1: Academic labour, academic identities and knowledge production practices in the platform university

Chair: Janja Komljenovic, Lancaster University

- Seppo Poutanen and Anne Kovalainen, University of Turku: Platformization of university – trademarking the knowledge
- Charles Mathies, Koulutuksen Tutkimuslaitos, Finnish Institute for Educational Research: We are doing it to ourselves: Research management platforms shaping academic research
- Clemens Blümel, German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies, Berlin: The platformization of research evaluation: towards a novel culture of appreciation?
- Martina Franzen, Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) in Essen: The role of altmetrics platforms in shaping an alternative academic self

11.10 – 12.15 Keynote: A different capitalism? Different subject/ivities? Or not?

Beverley Skeggs, London School of Economics and Political Science

Chair: Mark Carrigan, University of Cambridge

12.15 – 13.30 Break for lunch
13.30 – 15.35  Session 2: Higher education industry and the platform university
Chair: Peter Francis, Northumbria University

- Susan Robertson, University of Cambridge: Regimes of Sight and Optical Illusions in the Platform University
- Ben Williamson, Edinburgh University: Making markets through digital platforms: Pearson, edu-business, and the (e)valuation of higher education
- Janja Komljenovic, University of Lancaster: Political economy of the platform university - from marketization to capitalization
- Morten Hansen, Cambridge University: From newspaper supplement to data company: Reading around the World University Rankings
- Marc Jacquinet, University Alberta, Portugal and University of Algarve, Portugal: What do we mean by metrics and big data in higher education for assessing teaching, research and learning outcomes?

15.35 – 16.00  Break

16.00 – 17.40  Session 3: Discourses, perceptions and precarisation in the platform university
Chair: Ben Williamson, Edinburgh University

- Richard Terry, Warwick University: Interfacing with learning machines: a new method for interrogating user datafication mechanisms in online learning platforms
- Louise Hoj Larsen, EI: The Platform University and its approaches to big data
- Francesca Coin, Lancaster University: Mental health in the platform university: a political economy
- Eva Hartmann, University of Cambridge: The digitalisation of educational diplomacy: What difference does it make?

19.00 – onwards: Informal dinner on a self-funded basis
White Cross, Quarry Rd, Lancaster, LA1 4XT
Friday, 29 November 2019

The Gregson, 33 Moorgate, Lancaster, LA1 3PY

9.15 Doors open

9.30 – 11.10 Session 4: Knowledge dissemination and circulation practices in the platform university

   Chair: Eva Hartmann, University of Cambridge

   - On Hee Choi, Bristol University: Making a third space map of international students’ identity negotiation - Simondonian approach to a new higher education platform
   - Gabi Witthaus, Lancaster University: Virtual Learning Environments, Third Spaces and (Post)Coloniality in Higher Education
   - Carrigan and Francis: Critical Realism and the Social Ontology of Platforms
   - Mario Azevedo, Maringá State University (UEM-Brazil): Platform University, Risk Science, and Public Good: the international circulation of ideas and the knowledge production in the second modernity

11.10 – 11.30 Break

11.30 – 12.30 Keynote: Accelerating new cognitive infrastructures in higher education

   Sam Sellar, Manchester Metropolitan University

   Chair: Janja Komljenovic, Lancaster University

12.30 – 13.30 Break for lunch

13.30 – 16.00 Education and Technological Unemployment Symposium

   Chair: Sarah Hayes, University of Wolverhampton, UK

   Presenters: see appendix

16.00 – 16.15 Break

16.15 – 16.45 Open discussion and closing

   Chairs: Janja Komljenovic (Lancaster University), Mark Carrigan and Susan Robertson (both University of Cambridge) and Peter Francis (Northumbria University)
Appendix

Education and Technological Unemployment Symposium

1. Introduction – overview of the theme, about the book
   Sarah Hayes, University of Wolverhampton, UK

Book chapter presentations (presented by chapter authors):

   Sam Sellar, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

3. The ‘Creative, Problem-Solving Entrepreneur’: Alternative Futures for Education in the Age of Machine Learning?
   Jeremy Knox, Edinburgh University, UK

4. ‘Employable Posthumans’: Developing HE Policies that Strengthen Human Technological Collaboration not Separation
   Sarah Hayes, Wolverhampton University, UK

5. Graduate Employability (GE) Paradigm Shift: Towards Greater Socio-emotional and Eco-technological Relationalities of Graduates’ Futures
   Nataša Lacković, Lancaster University, UK

   Mark Dawson, Lancaster University, UK

Responses (these presenters do not have chapters in the book):

7. General response to the book – issues and trends (Tony is currently writing a review of the book)
   Tony Reeves, University for the Creative Arts, UK

8. Looking into the future (Brian is currently preparing a large project bid which is based on the book – he will examine possible paths for future research in the field)
   Brian Sudlow, Aston University, UK