



UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

Department of Philosophy and Preliminary Studies

The Department of Philosophy at the University of Bergen invites you to our Symposium: "The Relation between Theory and Empirical Research in the Social Sciences and the Humanities"

Date: Friday, January 13th. and Saturday 14th. 2012

Place: Room 208/209 (second floor) at Sydneplassen 12/13

PROGRAMME

| Friday 13th. | Saturday 14th. |
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| 09.00 - Opening by Reidar Lie , Head of Department. | |
| 09.15 - 11.00 Keynote lecture by Jason Glynos: <i>"Theory and Method in Critical Empirical Research. A Logics Approach"</i> . | 09.15 – 11.00 Keynote lecture by Frank Ankersmit: <i>"Truth and Historical Representation"</i> . |
| 11.15 - 12.30 Randi Gressgård: <i>"Questioning the 'possible' in 'How is Society possible'"</i> . | 11.15 – 12.30 Erling Sandmo: <i>Disciplining Theory: History, Representation, Repression.</i> |
| 12.30 – 13.15 Lunch break | 12.30 - 13.15 Lunch break |
| 13.15 – 14.30 Dag Erik Berg: <i>"On the Relation between Political Theory and Political Science: some lessons from my work on the Dalit (India's "untouchables") question and its significance for political theory and research"</i> . | 13.15 – 14.30 Anniken Greve: <i>"A Meta-theoretical Approach to the Interaction between Theory and Literary Text"</i> . |
| 14.45 – 16.00 Hans Ebbing: <i>"Samfunnsmessige betingelser for vitenskap". (Societal Preconditions for Science.)</i> | 14.45 - 16.00 Knut Ågotnes: <i>"What is Philosophy doing in the Social Sciences and the Humanities?"</i> |

The Symposium is free and open to all.

NB! Registration to: Kirsten Bang (kirsten.bang@fof.uib.no) before January 5th. 2012 or as soon as possible.



About the speakers:

Jason Glynos is Lecturer in Political Theory and Director of the Masters Programme in Ideology and Discourse Analysis at the University of Essex, UK. He published in 2007, with David Howarth, *Logics of Critical Explanation in Social and Political theory*. They write: "...we argue that our poststructuralist approach refuses the choice between universal aspiration of mechanism and the particularist and eclectic tendency of contextualized self-interpretations." "Our view...is that the opposition between universal or general subsumption on the one hand, and thick-descriptive particularity on the other, is not necessary" (p. 188). And: "...empirical generalizations arise not through inductive or deductive means." (p. 189).

Randi Gressgård is a sociologist at the University of Bergen. Published: *Multicultural Dialogue: Dilemmas, Paradoxes, Conflicts*, in 2010.

Dag Erik Berg is a political scientist who took his PhD in 2011 on: *Dalits and the Constitutional State. Untouchability, Dalit Movements and Legal Approaches to Equality and social Justice for India's Scheduled Castes*.

Hans Ebbing is a philosopher in Bergen. His "Akademisk produksjonsmåte" is in *Vardøger* nr. 32, 2010.

Frank Ankersmit is Professor of Intellectual History and Historical Theory at the University of Groningen. His books include *Narrative Logic* (1983), *History and Tropology* (1994), *Historical Representation* (2001), and *Political Representation* (2002). His lecture will be based on his forthcoming book *Meaning, Truth and Reference in Historical Representation*. Here he says: "...I will take history and historical representation as my guide. ...the historians language will not only promote a better understanding of history, but ...it will also add a new chapter to existing philosophy of language and open the eyes of philosophers of language to issues that they have so far been blind to. Above all the issue of how to account for a complex reality in terms of a complex text - the paradigmatic achievement of the historian's text" (p. 4). And: "In sum, the account of historical representation refers us to a stage preceding the existence of individual things and of what can be truly said about them. Paradoxically, representation precedes true description" (p. 192).

Erling Sandmo is Professor of history at the University of Oslo. His "Hvordan det egentlig var" is in *Nytt Norsk Tidsskrift*, 27, 2010.

Anniken Greve is Professor of Literature at the University of Tromsø. Published with Rolf Gaasland: "Om fagfellesskap, begrepsforvaltning og personlig engasjement i litteraturvitenskapen" in *Norsk Litteraturvitenskapelig Tidsskrift*, 1, 2004.

Knut Ågotnes is a philosopher at the University of Bergen. His "En hardt tilkjempet frihetsfølelse' Om hjernevask, humanister og samfunnsvitere" is in *Nytt Norsk Tidsskrift*, 28, 2011.