

What can the humanities bring to interdisciplinary project teams?

INVITATION

DATE: December 11, 2023

TIME: 10.00-15.45, followed by networking/reception

LOCATION: Preben Hornung Stuen, Frederik Niensens vej 2, 8000 Aarhus C. Breakout activities in adjacent rooms

REGISTRATION: Please register [here](#)

ORGANIZERS: Heather Anne Swanson, Professor, AU Anthropology and Centre for Environmental Humanities and Maja Hojer Bruun, Associate Professor, AU Danish School of Education (DPU)

PURPOSE: To concretely consider what the H of SSH can contribute to Horizon Europe Pillar 2 applications and other interdisciplinary initiatives.

DESCRIPTION: There is broad consensus that interdisciplinary research is needed to help address the urgent challenges posed by environmental and sustainability dilemmas. Despite much good will, interdisciplinary initiatives continue to struggle to effectively integrate the insights and research practices of social science and humanities (SSH) scholarship in general, and of the humanities (H), in particular. Researchers with experience in interdisciplinary efforts nearly always agree that it is essential to begin working across different fields as early as possible in the project design process. But this is often difficult to do in practice, especially in the case of the humanities, where few outside of its disciplines have a vivid picture of what its different approaches might contribute to a given project or topic.

This workshop seeks to address this challenge in a novel way: by imagining what humanities scholars might bring to projects that are still early in their design phase. Three research groups - composed primarily of scholars from the natural and technical sciences - have generously agreed to put forward in-process project proposals so that we can engage in collective visioning: If humanities scholars were involved in these projects, what might they contribute? And how might the overall projects potentially be changed by such humanities inclusion?

The workshop's format follows from this new approach. It will begin with a presentation on SSH-inclusion in EU funding contexts and brief introductions to the three in-process research proposal ideas. Then, invited humanities researchers will serve as guides for imagining new kinds of SSH work packages and questions. All other researchers will be asked to serve as co-creators and dialogue partners during an interactive breakout session and a subsequent discussion.

Researchers from all disciplinary backgrounds and career stages are welcome to attend.



Program

- 10:00** Welcome and Opening Remarks
- 10:10** Funding context; **How does the EU Commission view SSH-collaboration overall, and the H in SSH, in particular** (presentation plus Q&A) / by **Lina Christensen**, Senior advisor, Central Denmark EU Office
- 10:55** BREAK
- 11:15** Brief **presentations of 3 proposals for interdisciplinary funding** (which are still under development) from START HUBs
- Future Agrifood Systems** by **Timothy Hobley**, Associate Professor | National Food Institute, Technical University of Denmark
- DIGITAL** by **Claus Aage Grøn Sørensen**, Professor | Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering – Communication, Control and Automation, Aarhus University & **Jonas Valbjørn Andersen** Associate Professor | Business IT, Information Systems and Digital Innovation, European Blockchain Center, IT University of Copenhagen
- Circularity of Nutrients** by **Søren Krogh Jensen**, Professor | Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, Aarhus University & **Morten Lykkegaard Christensen** Associate Professor | Section for Chemical Science and Engineering, Aalborg University
- 12:00** LUNCH, served at Stakladen
- 12:45** Breakout sessions: **Participant brainstorming/groupwork**, led by humanities researchers who will chair the sessions
- 14:15** BREAK
- 14:30** **Propositions for grant proposal development with H inclusion:** Presentations from humanities researchers, based on both preparatory work and summaries of breakout sessions
- 15:15** **Discussion and Wrap-up**
- 15:45** **Networking & reception**
- 16:30** **EVENT END**