

Full call for papers: 2<sup>nd</sup> #EverydayEthics conference

## **Everyday ethical dilemmas in healthcare: power, politics and practice**

10<sup>th</sup> May 2016, Royal College of Nursing, Central London

We are pleased to announce our second *everyday ethics* conference and to invite you to submit a paper, poster or creative workshop activity. Our [inaugural conference in January 2015](#) brought together practitioners, people who use services, students and academics from different disciplines to explore the ordinary, everyday ethical dilemmas encountered in health and care practice. Presentations and conversations connected lived experiences to broader social and political discourses and identified the need to reframe them in more collaborative and useful ways. In the year since, that need has only intensified, as we seek to work collectively, to think things through together, to listen to voices traditionally marginalised and to act in the best interests of others.

This year we seek to undertake a deeper analysis of the kinds of ethical issues and questions arising from practice, and to investigate them in light of new perspectives. Categories such as 'patient', 'student', and 'professional' - as well as ideas of distinct academic disciplines, health organisations or agencies - are often used to describe and justify certain political projects or reforms. We want to ask, can these terms obscure or inhibit some of the ways in which, in practical ways, we forge other relationships and alliances, and express ourselves in different moral and political registers? Seeing things in terms of everyday ethics can help us to frame some of these mainstream discussions in alternative ways and begin to see things differently.

Our goal for this year's conference is to connect and find synergies in related projects, working together in new and interesting ways leading up to, during and following the conference event. Ideas will be generated through the call for papers and across social media networks. They are likely to include conversations, the creation of learning resources, and new ways of interpreting and developing ethical approaches. We want to encourage and facilitate work on a special journal series or jointly authored textbook that benefits from multiple viewpoints and is available to a wide audience.

*Themes: new perspectives on the ethical issues and dilemmas arising from practice*

### **Theme 1 – Ethics and power**

Submissions to this theme will explore the relationship between ethics and power, in particular, the ways in which power is enacted in everyday ethical situations. This might be investigated through personal accounts, relationships

and membership of communities, for example. Or it might be that critiques of processes and structures, disciplinary and professional codes, or rules and policies offer insights. Submissions are welcome from a variety of perspectives, including students, people using services, support/care workers, practitioners and academics. Submissions may investigate notions such as partnership, authority, hierarchy, leadership and control.

### **Theme 2 – Ethics and politics**

Submissions to this theme will explore the relationship between ethics and politics. The micro-politics of everyday interactions and decisions and their relationship to macro-political discourses are of particular interest, in particular those in which ethical stances are implicated or assumed. Submissions may investigate the ways in which political/economic decisions or directives come to influence everyday activities, or may utilise such experiences to investigate political objectives. They may address opportunities, successes or problems, of the kind encountered in professional, organisational, managerial, quality, inspection or workforce projects. Submissions are welcome from a variety of perspectives, including students, people using services, support/care workers, practitioners and academics. Submissions may investigate such things as decision making, prioritising resources, conflicts of interest, or when types of responsibilities and duties contradict.

### **Theme 3 – Ethics and practice**

Submissions to this theme will explore the relationship between ethics and practice, in particular the personal, intersubjective and social encounters between people. Of particular interest is the way we work together when values differ, or when cultural norms or religious beliefs are important to understand. Equally how people think, behave and develop ethically within uncertain, changing and imperfect contexts, and collectively as members of communities and in partnerships, is important to explore. Factors that promote, support or detract from ethical practices may include such debates as inclusive/healthy cultures, safe staffing levels, access to information or resources, and education, training and supervision practices. Submissions are welcome from a variety of perspectives, including students, people using services, support/care workers, practitioners and academics.

#### Criteria for acceptance

All types of submission should meet the following criteria:

1. Submissions should be written or use visuals in an inclusive way capable of engaging non-specialist audiences, diverse groups and those marginalised by more mainstream conference formats
2. The content and presentation style needs to be accessible to and respectful of a broad audience crossing patient, carer, disciplinary and specialist groups

3. Relevance to the conference purpose and one or more of the three themes must be made explicit
4. Aspects of health or social care ought to provide the basis of submissions with an emphasis on everyday practices rather than abstract concepts
5. Particular ethical ideas, concerns or moral problems need to be explored in interesting ways in the submission, in language that is clear and meaningful to a broad and non-specialist audience.

Submission of abstracts (see form)

- Abstracts must be no longer than 500 words, excluding references
- **Two copies** must be submitted. The first one needs your name, affiliations, and any identifying social media addresses you would wish to have published on the website, and a second fully anonymised copy is needed for blind peer review purposes
- Please indicate your first, second and third preference for presentation type
- State which of the three themes your submission addresses
- Use the optional and confidential section of the form to indicate if you wish to apply for a discounted fee
- Contact us if you would like further help or advice and see the help sections of the web page for general guidance.
- Please return the two copies of the abstract in **word documents** (see guidelines above) to: *events.hs@southampton.ac.uk*
- The deadline for abstracts is **February 22nd 2016**

Thank you very much for your interest and we look forward to your submission  
*The conference team*