

Call for Papers

A part of life: the meaning of work today

Cluj-Napoca, May 17-19, 2012

The Center for Applied Philosophy at Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, with the support of the European College Foundation Cluj-Napoca, is issuing a call for original research papers to be presented at the Conference on „**A part of life: the meaning of work today**”. The conference will be held at the New Europe Foundation Cluj-Napoca, Romania, from Thursday, May 17 to Saturday, May 19, 2012.

Argument

In ordinary life we easily understand both the nature of work (what makes that a certain class of actions is being called “work”) and the content of its concept (what can be called “work” and what not). However, a closer look into the proper sense of working acts is revealing a much more complicated landscape, as well as a whole series of insufficiently clarified theoretical assumptions, which cluster around this kind of very ordinary experience.

Work has to do with success and failure, effort and entertainment, gratification and exploitation, dignity and fall, rights and discrimination, citizenship and exclusion. Virtually no part of our life is beyond work. Nevertheless, life is much more than that. But what it means to work today? Why going to work is such an important part of what we are? Is work claiming the full amount of life’s spoil, does it take from life’s chunk the lion’s share or, quite the opposite, the have-not’s share? What theoretical framework should guide us in understanding the meaning of our actions and the sense of our lives in the multitude of contexts related to work? What myths should we deconstruct? Can work be reinvented, and if that’s the case, should we really be doing so?

The purpose of the workshop is to take stock of current approaches on the topic of work and working, and to examine its implications for contemporary problems from various fields of reflexion: philosophy, political science, sociology, anthropology, economics, organisation studies, legal studies etc.

Multi- and inter-disciplinary research is especially welcome.

Topics (not exclusive)

- Figures of the worker
- Work and leisure
- Work and management
- 'The New Work' (working with internet and working at home etc)
- Work and knowledge

- Work, care and good life
- Ethics and integrity at work
- Work and collaborative practices
- Work and precarious life

Invited speakers

Patrick O'Sullivan (École de management de Grenoble)

Bruce Bégout (Université de Bordeaux)

Ruud Welten (Tilburg University/ Saxion University of Applied Sciences)

Languages of the conference

English, French, German

Publication

Selected papers will be published in the academic journal "Studia UBB. Philosophia" after being double-blind reviewed.

Deadlines

April 1, 2012 – submission of abstracts at copoeru@hotmail.com

April 10, 2012 – notification of acceptance

Selections will be made by the conference organizers

May 10, 2012 – submission of full papers

June 30, 2012 – submission of papers for publication

Conference organizers

Prof. Virgil Ciomoş, PhD

Assoc. Prof. Ion Copoeru, PhD

Assist. Prof. Szigeti Attila, PhD

Assist. Prof. Alina Noveanu, PhD

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