

# Centre for Medical Humanities and Bioethics

YEARBOOK 2020/2021



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# Introduction

The decision to establish the cross-faculty Centre for Medical Humanities and Bioethics at LiU was taken by the then vice-chancellor, Helen Dannetun, in agreement with the deans at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, on 6 April 2020. A few months later in October 2020, the new vice chancellor Jan-Ingvar Jönsson, Head of the Department of Thematic Studies Per Gyberg, international and local speakers, and the audience at CMHB all contributed to the online launch of the centre, and made this event most memorable (see p. 26). Since then, CMHB has swiftly come to be engaged in collaborative research and discussions of urgent health challenges relating to the pandemic and beyond. Building on past networks in medical humanities and bioethics at Linköping University, CMHB now consists of 31 researchers from several departments at the university. It is a cross-faculty collaboration, and its aims are to gather, strengthen, and develop research, teaching, and collaboration with the society around us, within the areas of the medical humanities and bioethics. At CMHB, we work locally at the university, and on national and international scales.

The pandemic has made it necessary for all activities to take place online. It has also opened up new possibilities. Among the highlights of this first academic year at CMHB are, apart from its launch, the online joint workshop organised by the centre and Region Östergötland on the theme of the pan-

dem, intersectionality and sustainable development, and the online webinar on Medical Humanities and Movements of Knowledge. During the academic year 2020/2021, colleagues at CMHB have also met at monthly half-day seminars, at an exciting 'visionary' whole-day event focused on what we envision – as the collective of colleagues at CMHB – for the centre in the near and somewhat more distant future, and at an application workshop, all online. Further, the online mode has enabled widespread national and international collaborations and discussions on central topics in medical humanities and bioethics – thanks to all of you who have made these events possible and participated in and contributed to them!

Much is going on at CMHB, as this yearbook shows. Among the many exciting steps that the centre has taken during its first year are both local collaborations across the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, and international collaborations. On the latter note, a memorandum of understanding that formalizes collaboration between CMHB and the Institute for Medical Humanities at Durham University, UK, has been signed. Discussions have also started with medical humanities environments in, for example, France, Switzerland, and the US. Further, while CMHB is particularly strong on the research side, exciting discussions have started concerning new teaching opportunities and courses.

Much is going on and more is planned, for the next and the coming years. While the pandemic year of 2020/2021 has been challenging, the joint work and individual contributions from excellent and generous colleagues at CMHB have made the centre's first year most exciting and promising for the future. A warm thank you, to all of you who have made this possible!



Kristin Zeiler  
CMHB DIRECTOR

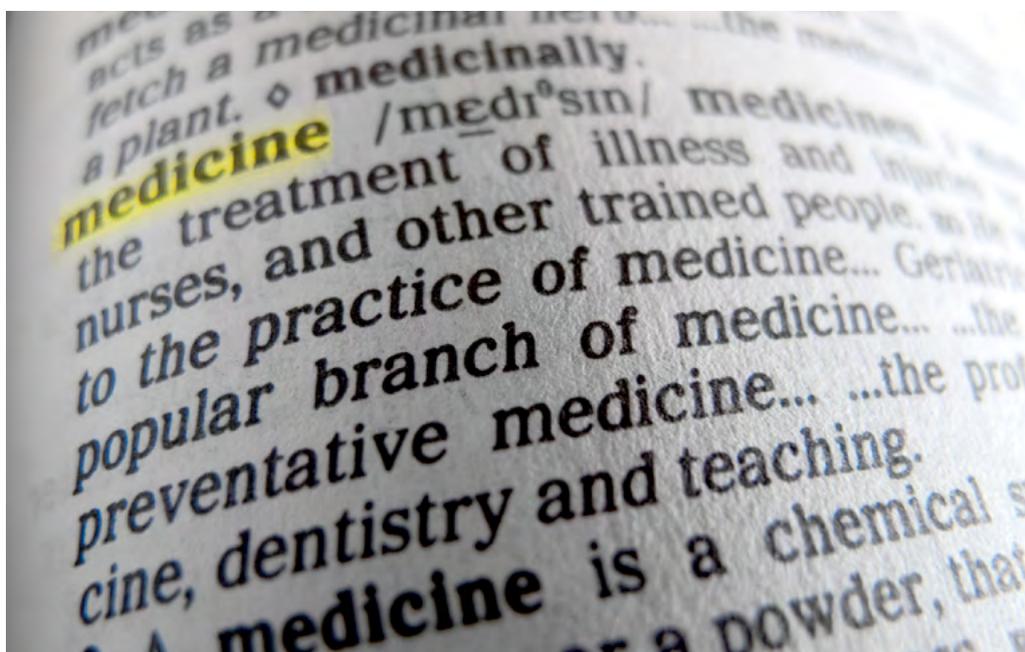
# What is CMHB about?

## VISION AND GOALS

### What are medical humanities and bioethics?

At CMHB, we interpret the term *medical humanities* broadly. Medical humanities, as we use the term, encompasses questions regarding, for example, health, well-being, bodily and functional variations, illness, disease, and caring and medical practices and technologies. We study these from different perspectives within the humanities and the “qualitative” side of the social sciences. The term also, and importantly, encompasses questions that arise at the intersections between the humanities, the social sciences, the care sciences, clinical medicine and biomedicine. Medical humanities is, then, thoroughly interdisciplinary.

Medical humanities is not the only possible term for this burgeoning field of inquiry. While the concept of medical humanities has been common since the inception of this field in the 1970s in the US, other terms have also been used. As one such example, the term *health humanities* has been used to underline that central concerns in this field do not only concern medical practices, but also broader questions of health and ill-health. A related use of the idea of health can be seen in early formulations of the field in Sweden in the 1980s, such as *thematic studies of health and society*, or *humanistisk hälsoforskning* (health research from within the humanities, or humanities health research). The field has, in other words, a rich heritage to draw on. And at CMHB, we are commit-



ted to an inclusive stance. This is also the case as regards the second concept in the title of our centre: bioethics. The field of bioethics examines ethical questions and aspects of biomedicine, care practices, and the larger field of the life sciences. At CMHB, we see it as valuable to gather scholars who work with medical humanities and/or bioethics. Together, we engage with questions regarding health, well-being, bodily and functional variations, illness, disease, and caring and medical practices and technologies, from a rich variety of perspectives, often in interdisciplinary ways.

The goals of CMHB are:

- to initiate, strengthen and engage in research and teaching at the intersection of the humanities, the social sciences, and medicine;
- to enable co-operation in research and teaching, and function as a meeting-place for researchers with different backgrounds, healthcare personnel, and other societal actors;
- to strengthen the relationships between research and clinical practices, and between research and teaching in medical humanities and bioethics.

# Who we are

**C**MHB is a cross-faculty collaboration between the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, with colleagues from five departments at Linköping University: the Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning (IBL), the Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences (BKV), the Department of Culture and Society (IKOS), the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences (HMV), and the Department of Thematic Studies (TEMA).

## DIRECTOR

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**Kristin Zeiler**, Professor,  
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and Social Change

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- Child Studies

# CMHB Research

Research at CMHB is currently structured into twelve interdisciplinary cross-themes that cover 39 research projects.

- 1 The cross-theme of **Aging and Later Life with Illness** addresses the meanings of aging with illness, living as an elderly person with disease, care home living, and new tests and treatments for cognitive impairment or dementia, from social, cultural, institutional, communicative, philosophical, and ethical perspectives.
- 2 The **Bodies and Embodiment** cross-theme explores sociocultural, historical and philosophical conceptions of bodies, lived experiences of embodiment, bodily symptoms and bodily expressions, and assumptions and norms about specific body parts or bodily variations.
- 3 **Critical Categories and Concepts** engages with central concepts and categories within biomedicine, at clinics, and in medical humanities and bioethics. This cross-theme also examines the conceptual tools and perspectives we use when generating new knowledge.
- 4 The cross-theme of **Difficult Choices and Priority-Setting** addresses ethical and existential choices that arise at hospitals and in care homes, and when setting priorities in health-care. It engages with questions concerning whether to withdraw or withhold, or offer or abstain from, treatment in healthcare and care homes.
- 5 The **E-health, Digitalisation, Machine Learning** cross-theme explores communicative, ethical, social and material dimensions when robots, machine learning, new digital tools, information and communication technologies, and AI are introduced into healthcare.
- 6 The cross-theme of **Feminist and Intersectionality Theory** examines how ethnic boundaries, gender and age (as some examples) affect healthcare practices and are talked about and made sense of. This cross-theme also contributes to feminist and/or intersectional theory.
- 7 The cross-theme of **Knowledge Production** examines, for example, the production, movement and translation of knowledge. Focusing on medicine, healthcare, and related fields of inquiry, it addresses how different knowledge is valued, and the perspectives of different actors involved in knowledge production.
- 8 The **Mental Health/Ill-health** cross-theme examines conceptualizations and experiences of mental health and mental ill-health. It approaches the topic from individual, medical, social and historical perspectives.
- 9 The cross-theme of **Narratives and Communication** addresses communication in relation to health, illness, and health care. It engages also with the role and the use of narratives in medical education and conceptual work.
- 10 The **Professional Perspectives and Education** cross-theme explores health care professionals' roles, perspectives, and experiences. It addresses how health care professionals negotiate, manage, develop and transform their work and the settings in which they are engaged.
- 11 The cross-theme of **Subjectivity and Lived Experience** address experiences of, for example, illness/ill-health, healthcare encounters and medical diagnosis and treatment. It examines how individuals make sense of such experiences in relation to the broader contexts in which they are situated.
- 12 The cross-theme of **Family, Social Relationships, and Family-Making in Medicine** engages with ways in which families and social relationships are made sense of and negotiated in health care, the role of the family in health care and medicine, and how family-making is facilitated, but also challenged, through medical practices.

The chart on page 18–19 shows the relationships between the cross-themes and the current research projects. Further, some projects are cross-faculty collaborations, in the sense that they engage researchers from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and researchers from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

# Research Projects at CMHB 2020/2021

## A Constant Torment. Tracing the Discursive Contours of the Aging Prostate

This project employs an interdisciplinary medical humanities approach through a collection of sub-projects that traces the contours and textures of discourses that produce the aging prostate in different incarnations. Some sub-projects examine cultural and historical constructions of the prostate as a node of pain, discomfort, and angst, using interviews and archive material. Others explore the med-

ical discourses (including material semiotic practices) that enact the prostate as a discrete anatomical object to be physically examined and surgically removed, using observations, interviews, and analysis of medical discourses. And some sub-projects delineate how the prostate is known and invoked in its absence, after surgical removal, using post-structuralist analysis of interview material.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Ericka Johnson (PI), Jelmer Brüggemann, Jenny Gleisner, Sonja Jerak-Zuiderent, Alma Persson, Oscar Maldonado Castaneda, Elin Björk (all at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Maria Björkman (Uppsala University, now LiU) and Carina Danemalm-Jägervall (Region Kronoberg)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

### TIME PERIOD

2013 - 2019, extension to 2021

## A Gift for Life? A Sociocultural Exploration of Live Uterus Transplantation Between Relatives and Friends from the Perspective of Involved Parties

The project explores sociocultural aspects of live uterus transplantation between relatives or friends from the perspectives of involved actors such as patients, partners, and medical personnel. It aims to examine how sociocultural beliefs are drawn upon and potentially

questioned in the way in which involved parties reason about uterus transplantations, and to investigate how complexities in this reasoning can inform the development of care practices and policies in the field.

### PROJECT MEMBER

Lisa Guntram (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

### TIME PERIOD

2016 - 2018, extension to 2021

## A Feminist Approach to Medical Screening

This is an interdisciplinary medical humanities project that analyses subjectivity, agency and the normativity of and within screening practices through a mixed-methods approach and a novel combination of theoretical perspectives (feminist phenomenology and feminist science and technology studies, which allow for analyses of lived experience and knowledge production practices). Its

empirical foci are screening for cognitive impairment and dementia, preconception genetic screening, and the screening of school children's mental health. The project is designed to contribute to discussions of screening ethics in new ways, and parts of its results will be transformed into artefacts that stimulate reflection on values and norms within screenings.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Kristin Zeiler (PI), Alexandra Kapeller, Sofia Morberg Jämterud, Martin Gunnarson, Anette Wickström (all at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Anke Snoek (Maastricht University), Anna Isaksson, Emma Börjesson (Halmstad University College), Karin Ehrenberg and Hajar Sadequi (Royal Institute of Technology)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council, Consolidator Grant  
Co-Funding:  
LiU, faculty funding

### TIME PERIOD

2017 - 2022

## A New Biologism? How Medical Research, Policy and Clinical Practice Approach Ethnic Differences in Health

The project seeks to critically examine the practice of using national and ethnic categories in relation to migrants' health in a Swedish context. The overall aim of this research is to query the possible shift towards a biological understanding of ethnic differences in contemporary Sweden, and its impact

on equal treatment. The project will meet its aim through two case studies: Psychiatric Ill-health (Depression/Anxiety) and Diabetes (Type 2) in Sweden. Quantitative and qualitative methods are used and particular attention is paid to the translation between medical science, policy and clinical practice.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Anna Bredström (Department of Culture and Society, LiU) Shai Mulinari (Lund University)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

### TIME PERIOD

2020 - 2024

## A Normative Core Conception of Disease and ADHD

Spectrum states such as ADHD that range from normal to highly dysfunctional (with the same underlying physiology) represent a practical challenge for the healthcare system. A

normative core conception of disease aims to give better practical orientation as to how and why a (dys)function can be best classified as a disease and be treated by healthcare facilities.

### PROJECT MEMBER

Petra Gelhaus (Psychiatry Clinic: Motala/Mjölby, Region Östergötland)

### FUNDING

Follow-up project to a larger project funded by the Heinrich-Hertz-Stiftung, Germany 2010/2011 "A Normative Core Conception of Disease", 2013-2015; LFoU-medel "Theoretical, Ethical and Phenomenological Aspects of ADHD"

### TIME PERIOD

2013 - 2022

## A Normative Core Conception of Disease and Personality Syndromes

It is challenging and ethically risky to explain a dysfunction as being a consequence of a defect of the whole personality. A normative core conception of disease aims to give a

background to differentiate the dysfunctions that reflect a certain personality in a spectrum from normal, specific, and dysfunctional/harmful within each individual.

### PROJECT MEMBER

Petra Gelhaus (Psychiatry Clinic: Motala/Mjölby, Region Östergötland)

### FUNDING

Follow-up project to a larger project funded by the Heinrich-Hertz-Stiftung, Germany 2010/2011

### TIME PERIOD

2018 - 2022

## Advance Care Planning in Nursing Homes - Does it Matter?

A retrospective chart review on advance care planning at nursing homes. Care planning and decisions about withdrawing life-sustaining treatment involves ethical decisions. The

project aims to study how these decisions are made, on what grounds, and how they are followed.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

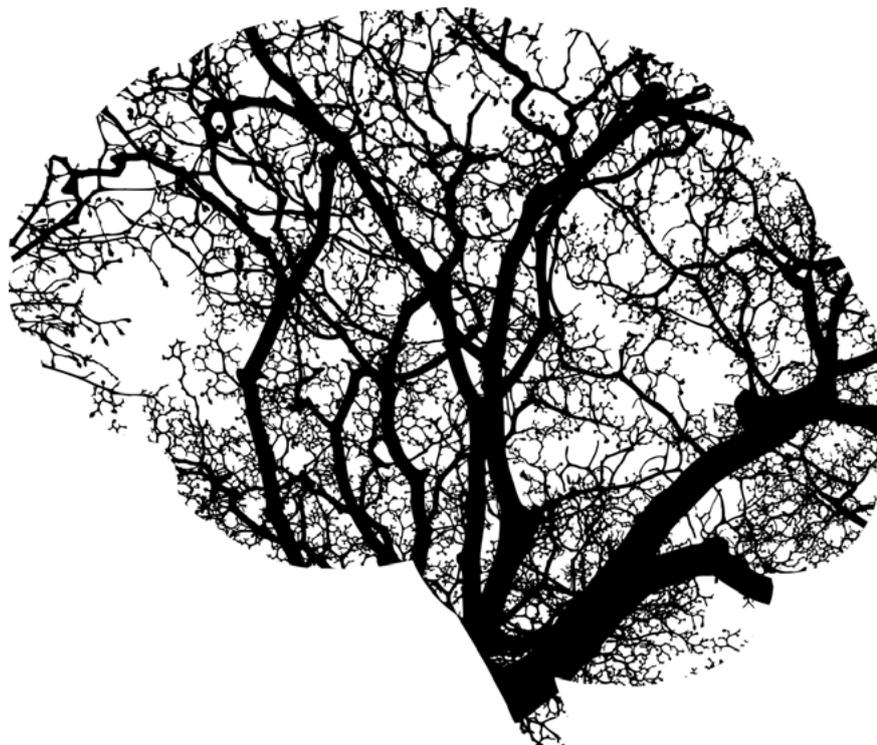
Lisa Kastbom, Anna Milberg, Magnus Falk (all at the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU), Marit Karlsson (Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU), Anders Tengblad (Primary Care Unit Wetterhålsan, Jönköping)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare, and ALF funding

### TIME PERIOD

2020 - 2021



## Apps and Downs: Mental Health and Teenage Girls' Interpretations of Social Media Content

Combining digital health studies and childhood studies with empirical research, the project examines the relationship between teenage girls, mental health, and social media by analysing the discourses on mental health in posts made by influencers, as well as how

teenage girls interpret and relate to that content. Drawing from the research method of ethnography for the internet, material published online is analysed parallel to the analysis of offline interviews with teenage girl followers.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Anette Wickström (PI) and Judith Lind (both at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

### TIME PERIOD

2021–2023

## Do I Want to Know It All? / Whose Decision?

A qualitative study on the perspectives of patients with malignant brain tumours on information about diagnosis and prognosis, and the treatment decision-making process.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Annika Malmström, Marit Karlsson, Peter Milos, Munila Mudaisi, Lisa Åkesson (all at the Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU, and Region Östergötland), Helena Bruhn (Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU, and Ryhov Hospital, Jönköping), Michael Strandeus (Ryhov Hospital, Jönköping)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare and ALF funding

### TIME PERIOD

2016–2022

## Ethical Challenges Associated with Alzheimer's Disease with a Special Focus on Healthcare Priority-Setting and Screening

Intensive research is being carried out to develop disease-modifying drugs for Alzheimer's disease. These drugs and the characteristics of Alzheimer's disease raise a number of

ethical challenges. This project analyses these challenges in relation to priority-setting and the diagnostic measures associated with these drugs.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Erik Gustavsson (Department of Culture and Society, LiU), Lars Sandman (National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU), Niklas Juth, Pauline Raaschou (both at Karolinska Institutet), Gerd Lärffars (Region Stockholm)

### FUNDING

Region Stockholm

### TIME PERIOD

2019–2021



## Fear of Childbirth in Lesbian and Bisexual Women and Transgender People

In this project, we explore and describe thoughts about and experiences of pregnancy, childbirth and reproductive healthcare in lesbian and bisexual women and transgender people with an expressed fear of childbirth. Minority stress, including fear and experi-

ences of prejudicial treatment, in maternity care and at delivery wards adds an additional layer to the fear of childbirth. Participants also experience stress in relation to norms concerning maternity, femininity and cis-gender, which adds to the fear of childbirth.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Anna Malmquist (PI) (Department of Behavioural Sciences, LiU), Katri Nieminen (Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU), Hanna Grundström (Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU)

### FUNDING BODY

Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences  
Co-Funding:  
LiU, faculty funding

### TIME PERIOD

2017 - 2021

## “Feeling Low” and “Have Difficulties Sleeping”. An Ethnographic Study of How Young People Make Sense of Psychological (Ill) Health

This project combines STS and childhood studies to analyse the performativity of surveys and young people’s perspectives of concepts used to measure and represent mental health. The analysis is based on a study of the cross-national survey Health Behaviour

in School-Aged Children and on interviews with 15-year-olds in Sweden. It problematises knowledge drawn from symptom frequencies and provides new perspectives on how to interpret and deal with young people’s mental health.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Anette Wickström (PI) (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Sofia Kvist Lindholm (Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning, LiU)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

### TIME PERIOD

2017 - 2019, extension to 2020

## Fiction as a Resource for Emotion and Affect in Medical Education

A PhD project focussing on the way fiction is used as a didactic tool in medical education to teach professional development related to the role of emotion in the professional identity of the physician. The project uses a discursive psychology approach to analyse video record-

ings of fiction seminars in order to understand how medical students and tutors make sense of emotional reactions to fiction, and how they make sense of the concepts of emotion and empathy as relevant for a professional physician.

### PROJECT MEMBER

Anja Rydén Gramner (Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning, LiU)

### FUNDING

LiU, faculty funding

### TIME PERIOD

2015 - 2021

## History of Swedish Child Psychiatry 1945–2000: Scientific Underpinnings and Changing Notions of Children and Childhood

The project aims to illuminate historical changes and continuities in Swedish child psychiatry, with a specific interest in knowledge production in scientific and professional practice. It shows how this period encompassed a rapid development of child

psychiatric knowledge in Sweden, shaped by both international trends and the specificities of the Swedish nation-state context. The research project further focusses on how child psychiatric knowledge has been disseminated to the public through media and other arenas.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Karin Zetterqvist Nelson, Peter Skagius (both at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare 2014-2018; LiU, faculty funding 2019-2024

### TIME PERIOD

2014 - 2024



## How Ambiguous Governance Becomes “Backstage” Practice in Healthcare: Professional Reasoning and Practice in the Case of Palliative Care

This project studies how various forms of knowledge, values and priorities are, in practice, handled in processes “backstage”, when professions are challenged to handle everyday decision-making situations.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Ann-Charlotte Nedlund, Daniel Boethius, Barbro Krevers (all at the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare  
Co-Funding:  
LiU, faculty funding

### TIME PERIOD

2018 – 2024

## In Defence of a “Thick” Formal Equality Principle

When setting priorities, formal equality is an important background principle, based on the claim that equal cases should be treated equally (and no irrelevant factors taken into account). This is normally viewed as a “thin” principle, and does not give substantial guid-

ance to priority setting. This project explores whether we can formulate a “thicker” version, given that we are dealing with mid-level principles for a real-life and non-ideal priority context to provide actual guidance.

### PROJECT MEMBER

Lars Sandman (National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU)

### FUNDING

National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU

### TIME PERIOD

2019 – 2021

## Is Insomnia a Disease?

This is a mini-project at the interface between clinical medicine and the description of a case of insomnia in the work of Swedish novelist Vilhelm Moberg. It involves a thought experiment that envisages a future when

sleeping pills have such a high degree of safety that no doctor can use risk as an argument for denying a patient a prescription. Would it then be self-evident to prescribe sleeping pills, regardless of the circumstances?

### PROJECT MEMBER

Emmanuel Bäckryd (Department of Health, Medicine, and Caring Sciences, LiU)

### FUNDING

N/A

### TIME PERIOD

2019 – 2021

## Is it Reasonable to Ignore the Family in Health-Care Priority Setting? Ethical, Economic and Policy Aspects

When setting healthcare priorities at the national level in Sweden, impact on the family is not taken into account, despite being considered at the clinical level. This is the case, even though the emotional, health and economic

impacts might be substantial. In the project, we explore the ethical rationale for taking the family into account, and what this implies for economic analysis and policy issues such as legitimacy.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Lars Sandman, Thomas Davidson, Mari Broqvist (National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU), Martin Henriksson (Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU), Erik Gustavsson (National Centre for Priorities in Health, and Department of Culture and Society, LiU)

### FUNDING

The National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU

### TIME PERIOD

2019 -

## Life with Dementia: Communication, Relations and Cognition

The program investigates what people living with dementia can do in collaboration with others and the importance of environmental networks in enabling social inclusion and participation. In sub-projects, we look at the

organisation of collaboration, persons living with dementia as experts, and how ICT can enhance communication among, for instance, people with diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Lars-Christer Hydén (PI) (Department of Culture and Society, LiU), Anna Ekström, Charlotta Plejert (both at the Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU), Nicole Müller (University College Cork, Ireland), Gunilla Jansson, Ali Reza Majlesi (both at Stockholm University), Christina Samuelsson (Karolinska Institutet), Ulrika Ferm (Gothenburg University)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare, Programme funding

### TIME PERIOD

2017-2022

## Lived Experiences of Rehabilitation after Covid-19: An Intersectional Perspective. Pilot Project.

This interdisciplinary project examines subjectivity and lived experiences of embodiment, illness, health, and rehabilitation after Covid-19 on the part of patients, close others/relatives, and health care personnel. Its intersectional perspective enables the analysis

of how ethnicity, gender, age and other social categories affect rehabilitation processes, and will contribute to societal understanding of Covid-19 and its effects on health and equality in health. The project will also contribute to our understanding of rehabilitation medicine.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Kristin Zeiler, Sofia Morberg Jämterud (both at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU) Anna Bredström (both at the Department of Culture and Society, LiU) Anestis Divanoglou, Richard Levi (Department of Health, Medicine, and Caring Sciences, LiU and Region Östergötland)

### FUNDING

LiU, faculty funding

### TIME PERIOD

2021

## Material Relationships in Action: the Social Psychology of Social Robots in Dementia Care

Based on ethnography, document analysis, and multimodal conversation analysis, the project will examine the social relationships between caregivers, patients, and social robots in dementia care, and the practices by which robots and people become social actors. This is an empirical contribution to the under-

standing of the potentials and challenges of employing social robots in care, and a theoretical (material social psychology and post-humanist theory) contribution to our knowledge of how material objects operate in social relationships.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Marcus Persson (PI) (Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning, LiU), David Redmalm (Mälardalen University), Clara Iversen (Uppsala University)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

### TIME PERIOD

2020-2022

## Mental Health in Postgraduate Research Environments in Sweden

This project constitutes a response to the recent research findings that bring to the fore the worsening of the mental health of PhD candidates. It strives to reflect on and contribute to the discourse and practices of Feelgood, a Swedish company that offers occupational health services and health counselling, concerning mental health in postgraduate research environments and it

also aims to reflect on and advance university pedagogies with regard to the mental health of PhD candidates. Furthermore, it wants to propose necessary structural changes in research environments and necessary changes on cultural, social and economic levels linked to PhD candidates' intersecting aspects of identity such as gender/sex/ethnicity/class/age vis-à-vis their mental health.

### PROJECT MEMBER

Edyta Just (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

### FUNDING

N/A

### TIME PERIOD

2021-

## Nurses' Experiences Concerning Prioritization for Health and Wellbeing of Older Nursing Home Residents During the Covid-19 Pandemic in Sweden: A Qualitative Study

An interdisciplinary study with a qualitative descriptive design followed by a normative analysis. The project is a hybrid of a nursing study and a study in empirical ethics, combining descriptive data on nurses' experiences concerning prioritisation for the health and

well-being of older nursing home residents during the Covid-19 pandemic with a normative analysis relating these experiences to the discussion on distributive justice and equality in healthcare.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Pier Jaarsma (PI), Tiny Jaarsma, Lars Sandman (all at the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU), Thérèse Bielsten (Jönköping University), Suzanne Cahill (Trinity College Dublin)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

### TIME PERIOD

1 December 2020 – 30 November 2021

## Ontological Security in a Transforming World

This project combines political-economic, sense-making, and phenomenological analyses of societal transformations in relation to climate change, and explores how interactions between changes in the practical sphere (e.g. routines and behaviours, climate change adaptation action, and technical innovations), the political sphere (e.g. transformation governance), and the personal sphere (e.g. lived experiences of health, well-being, risk,

loss and damage) shape the transformative process. The project's empirical focus is on Fiji and other Pacific Island states, and it contributes perspectives from environmental and medical humanities to debates on climate-related security, including a more thorough understanding of the challenges to health and security during a period of radical environmental change.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Victoria Wibeck (PI), Stephen Woroniecki, Björn-Ola Linnér, Kristin Zeiler (all at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Franco Vaccarino and Pamela Feetham (both at Massey University, New Zealand), Priyatma Singh (University of Fiji, Fiji)

### FUNDING

The project is part of the research program The Seedbox, A Mistra-Formas Environmental Humanities Collaboratory. Funded by Mistra and Formas

### TIME PERIOD

2020 – 2022

## Packaging, Negotiating, Translating: Transforming Knowledge into Practice

The project studies mediators as the pivot point between the production of (medical) knowledge and its use in practice, focussing on professions that may at first glance appear extremely disparate: forensic scientists, midwives, and occupational health professionals. Through ethnographic fieldwork, i.e. observ-

ing and interviewing mediators and practitioners in order to capture their perspective of their work, as well as analysing guidelines, the project provides knowledge on how organisational conditions and context affect how knowledge is translated between contexts and transformed into everyday practice.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Corinna Kruse (PI), Jenny Gleisner, Hannah Grankvist (all at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

### FUNDING

This project is part of the research programme Long-Term Provision of Knowledge, financed by Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, the Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (Formas), the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (Fortæ), and the Swedish Research Council (VR)  
Co-Funding:  
LiU, faculty funding

### TIME PERIOD

2016 – 2022

## Peculiar Natures: Slavery, Environment, and Nationalism in the Southern States, 1789–1865

*Peculiar Natures* tells a previously untold story about 19th-century American nature and 19th-century American slavery in a time and place where nature had material ramifications – medical, social, legal for enslaved black people and for white enslavers. Nature in the southern states before the Civil War was a factor in the development of ideas about the constitution of white and black bodies, about what made those bodies healthy or diseased,

about who counted as a person, and about who made up the body politic of the nation. This book thus tells the story of how seemingly benign ideas about the natural world, including its climates, diseases, plants, and waters, metamorphosed into white justifications of black enslavement and undergirded the white supremacist architecture of the Confederate government.

### PROJECT MEMBER

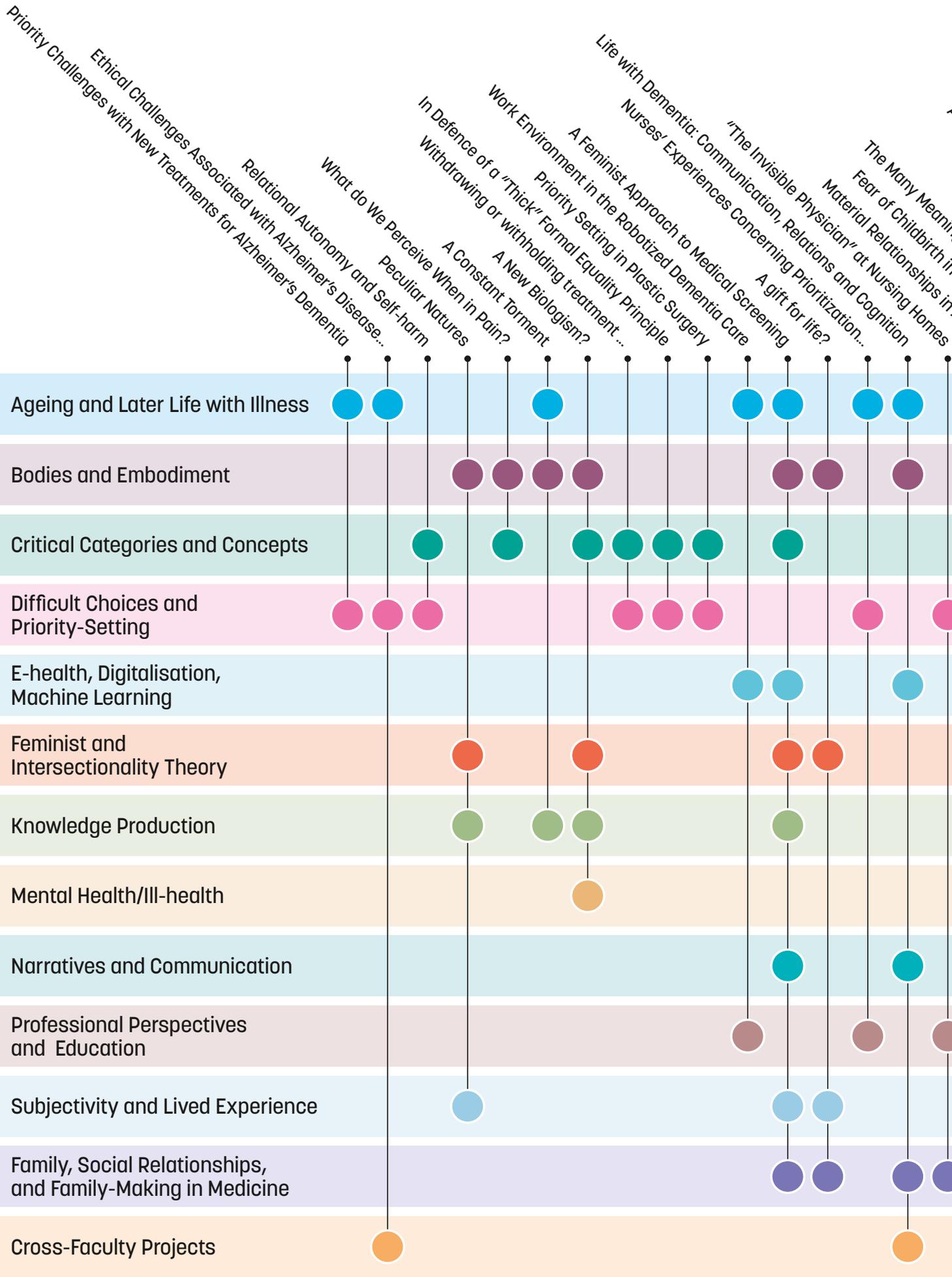
Lauren E La Fauci (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

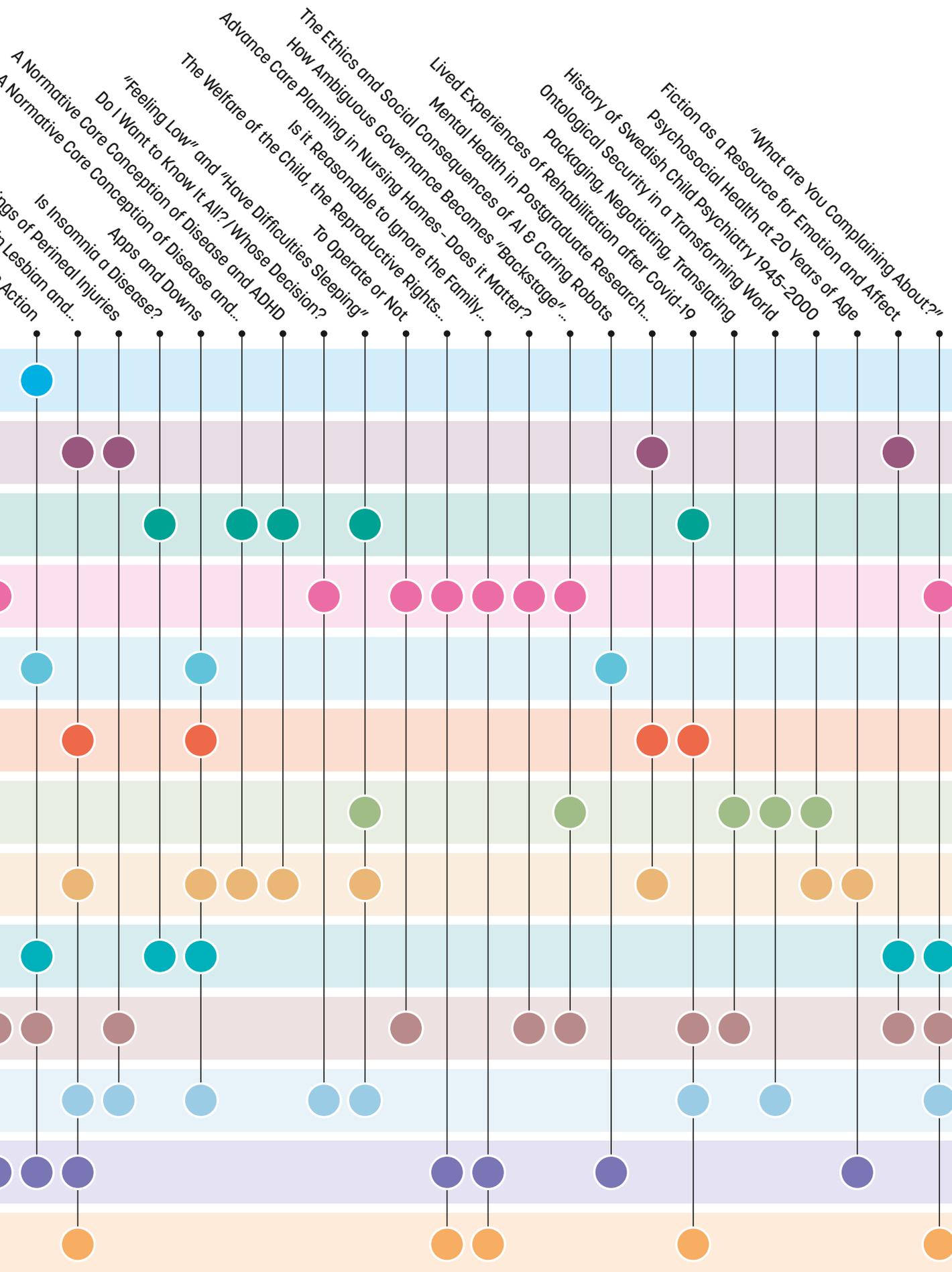
### FUNDING

N/A

### TIME PERIOD

2019 – 2022





## Priority Challenges with New Treatments for Alzheimer's Dementia

There are new drug treatments for Alzheimer's Dementia in the pipeline, requiring early identification of symptoms but being potentially disease modifying. This raises questions

about screening and how to prioritize these treatments, especially when it concerns considerations of family, budget impact and severity.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Lars Sandman, Erik Gustavsson, Thomas Davidson (all at the National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU), Niklas Juth (Karolinska Institutet), Gerd Lärfars, Pauline Raaschou (both at Region Stockholm)

### FUNDING

Region Stockholm

### TIME PERIOD

2019 - 2021

## Priority Setting in Plastic Surgery

Publicly financed plastic surgery is a borderline area in publicly financed healthcare, struggling to draw the line between what

should be financed and what should not. This project explores the ethical rationales and economic impact of delimiting plastic surgery.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Lars Sandman, Thomas Davidson (both at the National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU), Emma Hansson (Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Gothenburg)

### FUNDING

National Centre for Priority Setting in Health Care, LiU

### TIME PERIOD

2019 -

## Psychosocial Health at 20 Years of Age - a Longitudinal Study with a Gene-Trauma Approach

For the past 30 years, the increased prevalence of depression and anxiety among young women has received particular attention. However, even though knowledge regarding risk factors for mental illness is substantial, knowledge of aetiology and the mechanisms that cause mental illness is scarce. In order to study the course of mental illness and its associated risk factors, longitudinal family cohort

studies of high quality will be required. The SESBiC-study is a unique family-oriented longitudinal study in which approximately 1700 children-parent pairs have been followed from birth. The children have been followed from birth up to 20 years of age, and the mothers from pregnancy up to the year in which the children were 24-25 years of age.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Gunilla Sydsjö (PI) Sara Agnafors, Marie Bladh (all at the Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU, and Region Östergötland), Carl-Göran Svedin (Ersta Sköndal Bräcke Högskola)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare and SKANDIA

### TIME PERIOD

2020 - 2023

## Relational Autonomy and Self-harm. Ethical Backgrounds to "Brief admission" ("Självvald inläggning") and the Underlying Therapy Concepts

Patients with repetitive self-harming behaviour are a challenge to psychiatric in-patient treatment as they tend to deteriorate in hospital. Stepwise therapy that increases self-control and self-understanding has shown

positive effects, and the aim of the project is to investigate the underlying therapy concepts in order to co-ordinate better overall therapy for a patient group that consumes many resources, often without positive effect.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Petra Gelhaus, Anette Larsson, Sara Karlström (all at Psychiatry Clinic: Motala/Mjölby, Region Östergötland)

### FUNDING

Funded by 2017 LFoU-medel "Självvald inläggning"

### TIME PERIOD

2019 - 2022



## The Ethics and Social Consequences of AI & Caring Robots

Robots are starting to enter our daily life. We and our children are going to be expected to interact with robots as they perform different kinds of care for and with us at different life stages. What will that do to how we – and

how the robots – think of care? And how are we going to produce accountability, trust and empathy in the relational intra-actions we have, together?

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Ericka Johnson (Co-PI), Katherine Harrison (Co-PI), Maria Arnelid, Dominika Lisy, Isabel Garcia (all at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

### FUNDING

Marianne and Marcus Wallenberg Foundation and WASP-HS  
Co-Funding:  
LiU, faculty funding

### TIME PERIOD

2020 - 2025

## “The Invisible Physician” at Nursing Homes – Family Members’ Perspectives on Advance Care Planning

A qualitative study on family members’ experiences of advance care planning at nursing homes.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Lisa Kastbom (Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU), Marit Karlsson (Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU), Magnus Falk, Anna Millberg (both at the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare and ALF funding

### TIME PERIOD

2018 - 2020

## The Many Meanings of Perineal Injuries. Care-Seekers’ and Care-Providers’ Perspectives on Second-Degree Perineal Injuries, their Implications, and Potential to Improve Care

The project demonstrates how care-seekers’ and care-providers’ experiences and attitudes come to matter in care for perineal injuries. It aims to investigate care-seekers’ and care-providers’ experiences of and attitudes towards second-degree perineal injuries, and how

they shape, and are shaped by, information, treatment, and care encounters. The project also looks at how such attitudes and experiences can be unpacked and problematised to improve care.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Lisa Guntram (PI), Jenny Gleisner (both at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Lisa Lindén (Gothenburg University)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

### TIME PERIOD

2021 - 2023

## The Welfare of the Child, the Reproductive Rights of Adults and the Responsibility of the Welfare State

This interdisciplinary project examines child welfare assessments in the regulation of access to assisted reproductive treatment (ART). In three sub-studies, it analyses how policy and legislation justify restrictions in access to ART,

how the personnel at fertility clinics reason about child welfare assessments in ART, and the prevalence of and reasons for treatment denial.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Judith Lind (PI) (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Gunilla Sydsjö (Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU), Agneta Skoog Svanberg (Uppsala University)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

### TIME PERIOD

2017 - 2019, extension to 2020

## To Operate or Not

The project aims to describe and understand the moral reasoning of vascular surgeons when making clinical decisions.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Kaja Heidenreich (Örebro University), Anders Bremer (Linnæus University), Marit Karlsson (Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU), Mia Svantesson-Sandberg (Örebro University)

### FUNDING

ALF-funding

### TIME PERIOD

2020–2022

## “What are You Complaining About?” – Patients’ Critique in Care Encounters and Its Potential to Improve Quality of Care

This project studies what meaning of patients’ verbal critique in Swedish care encounters. It investigates patients’ and care professionals’ experiences, and the norms that guide how such critique is expressed and dealt with. Ap-

plying a qualitative and collaborative research design, the project aims to develop medical sociological understandings, while informing ongoing work on complaints and quality improvement in Swedish health care.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Jelmer Brüggemann (PI) (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Ann-Charlotte Nedlund (Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council  
Co-Funding:  
LiU, faculty funding

### TIME PERIOD

2021–2023

## Withdrawing or Withholding Treatment as a Result of Reimbursement Decisions – Operationalization of Ethical Principles Utilizing Psychological Traits (WITH-OUT)

In healthcare, withdrawing treatment is considered ethically worse than withholding treatment, despite a lack of ethical analyses to support this. In this project, we are exploring stakeholders’ and citizens’ views on this

distinction, using psychological experiments to identify factors influencing their attitudes towards the distinction, with the final aim to arrive at feasible ethical principles.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Lars Sandman, Liam Strand, Gustav Tinghög, Ann-Charlotte Nedlund (all at the National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU)

### FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

### TIME PERIOD

2020–2024

## What do We Perceive When in Pain?

This theoretical three-part project at the interface between clinical practice and the philosophy of pain explores the three traditional areas of pain medicine: acute, chronic, and cancer-related pain.

### PROJECT MEMBER

Emmanuel Bäckryd (Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU)

### FUNDING

N/A

### TIME PERIOD

2018–2021

## Work Environment in the Robotized Dementia Care: The Meaning of Social Robots for Caregivers’ Ways of Working and Work Environment

The project intends to qualitatively and methodically explore the dynamics between the ways in which caregivers use robots in relation to the dementia care patients and the potential implications for the caregivers’ physical and psychosocial work environment. The

study is expected to add to knowledge about how social robots can be used to promote a sustainable working life for the (mainly female) caregivers who work with people with dementia.

### PROJECT MEMBERS

Marcus Persson (PI) (Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning, LiU), David Redmalm (Mälardalen University), Clara Iversen (Uppsala University)

### FUNDING

AFA Insurances (research program: The effects of digitalisation on the work environment in the municipal and regional sector)

### TIME PERIOD

2020–2023

# Teaching Medical Humanities and Bioethics at LiU

## TWO EXAMPLES

### Interview with Erik Gustavsson

**You have extensive experience of teaching bioethics, including ethics, in different healthcare programmes and at the medical school. Could you describe some examples from your teaching experiences?**

When I teach with Lars Sandman and Marit Karlsson in the medical programme, one especially fun module is the one in Term 5 in which we focus on the concept of autonomy. The first part of this module consists of a lecture given by Lars, and then we describe several short cases in which ideas of autonomy are challenged. These may be, for example, cases in which the patient is a child or lacks certain cognitive abilities. The students are then divided into small groups and given one of these cases. Their task consists of preparing a poster presentation based on their case and the ethical issues it raises. Then Marit and I moderate a poster session during which the students mingle and listen to each other. The session is ended by a concluding discussion moderated by Marit and me.

Another interesting component arises in Term 6, where we focus on the principles of beneficence and non-maleficence. In this instance, the students first participate in a seminar and then I lecture on different senses in which people

may be benefited or harmed by health care practices. What is great about this moment/element is that the theoretical content in the lecture draws closely on the issues that arise from the students' questions. Moreover, I moderate seminars in both the medical programme and the doctoral course Bioethics and Research Ethics in which students present a clinical case from their experience and try to tease out the ethical dimensions of these cases.

**What is most exciting about teaching ethics in these programmes?**

When I studied moral philosophy at Lund University as an undergraduate, many of my fellow students complained that the discussions had no relevance for the real world. However, when I came to LiU I saw that many of the theoretical discussions at the seminars in Lund were indeed relevant for real-world cases, perhaps especially so, for health care and medical practices.

I have always been amazed at LiU by how much interesting theory can be drawn out from cases of clinical experience, and how they are often very complex from an ethical perspective, where



very small modifications of the case may raise different ethical issues.

For me as a researcher it is a privilege to have access to such a rich variety of cases.

**What is most challenging?**

On the one hand, I am sometimes surprised by the importance and practical usefulness that medical students find in theoretical discussions, but on the other hand, there are often some students in each group who find it difficult to see the relevance of theoretical tools in medical practice. In the latter cases, it can be very frustrating when I feel that I cannot ful-

ly convince them that theoretical aspects are, indeed, relevant.

Another challenge is that these study programmes often contain only a few components that discuss ethics. So you need to find the right balance between not going too deeply into the theoretical discussions, while going deep enough for it to be meaningful. It is sometimes challenging to strike the right balance.

#### **Why is this teaching important - for the students?**

I believe that it is of outmost importance that students understand that medical practices are shaped and coloured by values and ethical assumptions. Further, this teaching provides them with some

tools to assess ethical issues that they may encounter in their careers.

#### **In relation to the field of medical humanities and bioethics, what courses would you see as important to develop? What is your “dream course”?**

The seminars about clinical cases mentioned above often raise very interesting ethical questions, and there is often so much to discuss from these cases that it is not possible to fit even half of it into one seminar session. Over the last few years, I have been thinking about a course in clinical ethics that would start with one or two such seminars, and followed by course content that is tailored from the clinical cases, in dialogue with

the students. For example, if one of the cases actualises questions about how to understand health, one of the lectures will be on different concepts of health. Or if another case actualises questions about how to understand concepts such as autonomy in relation to, for example, Alzheimer’s disease, the next lecture will focus on that. Or if a case raises questions about resource allocation and distributive justice, this could be followed by a lecture that takes up these points. And so on. Of course, such a course faces some practical challenges, but I think it would be interesting to a wide variety of healthcare professionals, and very interesting for the lecturer(s).

## **Interview with Karin Zetterqvist-Nelson**

#### **You have extensive experience of teaching in the area of health in childhood, from different perspectives. Describe some examples from your teaching experiences.**

My teaching in the area of childhood health has been conducted in different contexts and at different academic levels. In the single-subject course Listening to Children (7.5 credits), the focus on students’ professional belonging and practice, has been very rewarding as a point of departure for exploring central concepts and theories from child- and childhood studies.

In the course Children’s Health in a Global Context (7.5 credits), which is part of the LiU master’s programme in child studies, we decided to encourage the students to critically analyse the health goals among the UN’s 17 sustainable development goals. The assignment was very rewarding in terms of helping the students to approach and analyse how global perspectives on child health relate to and differ from locally and culturally situated perspectives.

In my teaching at doctoral level (in various courses), ethics in child health research has been of special interest, specifically how to approach and balance the requirement for formal ethics of risk management on the one side, while at the same time opening up for and critically discussing ethics in practice.

#### **What is most exciting about this teaching?**

By far the most exciting aspect of teaching in the area of childhood and health

is to provide students with opportunities to reflect on and discuss cases based on their own experiences of dilemmas and challenges in working with children in health care and children in hospital.

#### **What is most challenging?**

Developmental thinking is strong in Swedish health care settings, which is good. Age in relation to cognitive and emotional development is an important aspect of understanding children’s abilities and maturity. However, current research in childhood studies, with its emphasis on children as agents in their own right (children as being) and as rights bearers, challenges developmental thinking (children as becoming). How can we acknowledge children in new ways, beyond the normative yardstick of “developmental thinking”?

#### **Why is this teaching important?**

Following the Swedish government’s decision to incorporate the UNCRC into Swedish legislation in 2020, something has happened in terms of how children are viewed, and our ideas of childhood. The government’s decision sent an important message to all sections of society, and despite the symbolic nature of the decision, it seems that it has paved the way for a renewed interest in children’s rights, which makes teaching on health issues in childhood particularly important.



#### **In relation to the field of medical humanities and bioethics, what courses would you see as important to develop? What is your “dream course”?**

A central ethical dimension concerns children’s right to rights. In the case of child health, the main concern is the right to participate in one’s own care and treatment, both in terms of annual health checks for all children, and in specific cases when individual children are affected by serious illnesses. In the latter case, there is a tendency to emphasise children’s vulnerability over agency. However, in the field of interdisciplinary child- and childhood studies, researchers have shown the importance of giving priority to each child’s unique competence and experiences as a basis for participation and decision-making.

# Events 2020/2021

1 OCTOBER 2020

## Launch of the Centre for Medical Humanities and Bioethics

On 1 October 2020, we were delighted to launch the Centre for Medical Humanities and Bioethics at an online event. The event opened with inspiring talks by Vice-Chancellor Jan-Ingvar Jönsson, and by Head of The Department of Thematic Studies, Per Gyberg, who both emphasised the role of medical humanities and bioethics in relation to the rapid development of the life sciences. During the opening celebrations, three international guests – Professor Corinne Saunders from the Department of English Studies/Institute for Medical Humanities, Durham University, UK; Professor Klaus Høyer from the Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; and Professor Bjørn Hofmann from the Norwegian University of Science and

Technology and Centre for Medical Ethics, University of Oslo, Norway – joined an engaging discussion of the challenges and opportunities within the medical humanities and bioethics. In a subsequent round-table discussion we also covered the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic through the work of researchers at CMHB, who are investigating the pandemic from different angles within the medical humanities and bioethics. This was joined by CMHB colleagues Senior Lecturer Anna Bredström, Department of Culture and Society, Assistant Professor Lauren E. La Fauci, Department of Thematic Studies, and Professor Lars Sandman, Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences/National Centre for Priorities in Health.

13 NOVEMBER 2020

## CMHB Annual Gathering: Visionary Workshop

The CMHB Annual Gathering is a recurrent one-day event at which colleagues at CMHB meet for creative and engaged in-depth conversation about our research and about the centre. At the 1st Annual Gathering, we focussed specifically on providing an opportunity for colleagues at CMHB to get to know each other's research interests and to discuss the visions and goals of CMHB.

As such, the gathering provided an excellent opportunity for networking and inspiring conversations. Our colleagues also engaged in creative and stimulating discussions about the goals and visions of CMHB. These conversations provided many creative ideas on how to make the most of the unique opportunity to bring together medical humanities and bioethics that CMHB represents.

5 FEBRUARY 2021

## Open Webinar "Hot mot hälsan"

Arranged in cooperation with Region Östergötland, the webinar "Hot mot hälsan: pandemi, intersektionalitet och hållbar utveckling" gave us the opportunity to develop discussions into health and sustainability previously initiated at the event "Framtidens stad och samhälle" held by Region Östergötland in November 2020, which discussed the future of urban and regional planning. The event, to which both academics and a broad range of health care actors had been invited, gathered more than 100 participants, who joined our discussion of what can be learned about intersectionality, health and sustainable urban and regional planning from the effects of the pandemic. The webinar was organised around presentations by four invited scholars – Senior Lecturer Anna Bredström, Department of Culture and Society; Professor Emerita Margareta Kristensson, Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences / Region Östergötland; Specialist Physician Sofia Lindstrand, Region Östergötland; and Senior Lecturer Ida Seing, Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning. With different perspectives on the pandemic as their points of departure, the invited guests initiated thought-provoking and inspiring discussions of how health is related to, for example, sex/gender, age, ethnicity and class. As such, the webinar contributed to refining nuances in the discussion of sustainability, and increasing understanding.

19 FEBRUARY

## Research Application Workshop

A large part of many researchers' work is comprised of writing grant applications, a task that requires specific skills. At CMHB, we find it productive, constructive, and inspiring to make this process a joint one. This allows us to make the most of the interdisciplinary expertise that constitutes CMHB; to benefit from

each other's research expertise and from shared experiences in evaluating applications; and to identify opportunities for new and unique collaborations and networks across disciplinary and faculty boundaries. At our recurrent application workshops, CMHB colleagues discussed and gave constructive feedback to each

other's work-in-progress grant applications. To enable in-depth discussions, all drafts were read beforehand by the participants, which proved to provide an excellent starting point for engaged, careful, and productive discussions.

13 APRIL 2021

## Open Webinar "Medical Humanities and Movement of Knowledge"

Departing from the recently released anthology *Movement of Knowledge: Medical Humanities Perspectives on Medicine, Science and Experience* edited by Senior Lecturer Kristofer Hansson of the Faculty of Health and Society – Department of Social Work, Malmö University, and Dr. Rachel Irwin, of the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences – Division of Ethnology, Lund University, this event presented a conversation about the deconstruction, reconstruction and transformation of knowledge in

its movements between patients, health providers, and society. Joining the discussion with comments and questions were also three invited interlocutors: CMHB researchers Assistant Professor Jenny Gleisner and Assistant Professor Hannah Grankvist of the Department of Thematic Studies – Technology and Social Change, LiU, and Senior Lecturer Maria Björkman, of the Department of Culture and Society – Division of Philosophy, History, Arts and Religion, LiU.



## CMHB Monthly Seminar Series

Taking place on the first Thursday of every month, the CMHB monthly seminar series provides a creative and engaging environment for interdisciplinary discussions of different perspectives on illness, health, medical technologies

and health care practices. The seminar series welcomes both work-in-progress papers and oral presentations of ongoing research or research ideas, which allows for thought-provoking conversations and constructive feedback. As such, the

CMHB seminar series presents a unique opportunity for researchers in medical humanities and bioethics at LiU to be part of a stimulating context and to find new connections.





# Collaborators and Networking

## **CMHB and the Institute for Medical Humanities, Durham University**

Discussions of the strong synergy between the research approaches to medical humanities at Linköping University, Linköping and Durham University, Durham started as early as 2019. When CMHB was launched, it became possible to establish a partnership and Agreement of Understanding between CMHB at Linköping University, Linköping and the Institute for Medical Humanities at Durham University, Durham. The aim of this partnership is to facilitate discussions on interdisciplinary research cultures, researcher exchanges and collaborative project development.

## **Traveling despite the Pandemic: Collaborative Talks Online**

While person-to-person meetings have been postponed during the pandemic, online meetings are very much possible. Initial collaborative talks on possible shared research foci and a possible future collaboration in a research school have taken place between CMHB and colleagues at the Institute for Medical Humanities, Durham University, Durham, l'Initiative Humanités Biomédicales at Sorbonne University, Paris, the Department of Medicine, Health and Society,

Vanderbilt University, Nashville and the University of California, San Francisco. We have also had the pleasure to initiate talks with colleagues at l'Institut Éthique Histoire Humanités at the University of Geneva, Geneva, the Department of Humanities at Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey and Medicine and the Muse at Stanford University, San Francisco.



# CMHB Next Academic Year

## A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

JOINT EVENT BETWEEN REMESO AND CMHB, 22 SEPTEMBER 2021:

### Open Lectures by Prof. Janet Shim and Prof. Ann Pollock

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**Anne Pollock: Race and biomedicine  
beyond the lab: 21st century mobilisations**

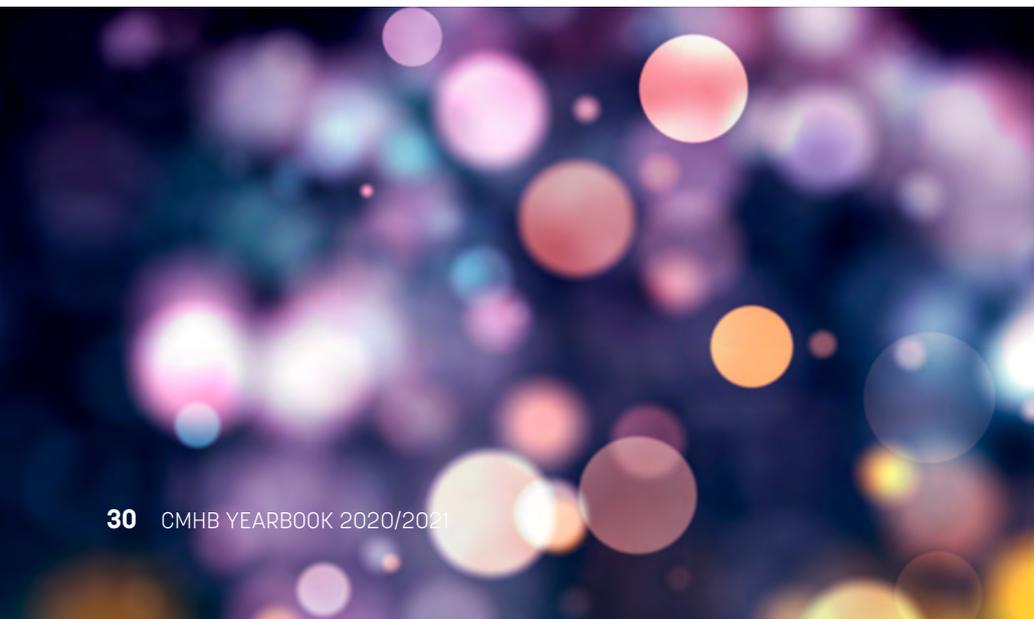
Anne Pollock is Professor of Global Health and Social Medicine at King's College, London. Prof. Pollock has published extensively on ethnicity, race and health, including the book *Medicating Race: Heart Disease and Durable Preoccupations with Difference*. The book tracks the intersecting discourses of race, pharmaceuticals, and cardiovascular disease in the United States from the founding of cardiology to the controversial

approval of the race-specific drug BiDil for heart failure in “self-identified black patients.”

**Janet Shim: The diversity mandate  
in US biomedical research:  
precision, inclusion, and equity**

Janet K. Shim, PhD, MPP, is Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco. Her current programme of research focuses on two main areas: the sociological

analysis of the science of health disparities and the study of the interactional dynamics of healthcare encounters and their consequences. Her work has been supported by grants from the US National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. She is a co-editor of *Biomedicalization: Technoscience, Health, and Illness in the U.S.* (Duke University Press, 2010) and the author of *Heart-Sick: The Politics of Risk, Inequality, and Heart Disease* (New York University Press, 2014).





SCIENTIFIC SALON, 14 OCTOBER 2021:

## E-health, Digitalisation and Robots in Health Care

The aims of e-health and digitalisation are to enable and strengthen the possibilities for good care, at hospitals and residential care homes. Robots in health care and care homes are intended to contribute positively in a variety of ways. At LiU, research projects are examin-

ing e-health, digitalisation and the use of robots in health care. Further, projects on e-health and digital ways to support home care and home nursing are ongoing in Region Östergötland. What are the challenges and what are the possibilities of this growing field? These are the top-

ics at CMHB's first Scientific Salon. At a scientific salon, in-depth conversations in small groups are central. In a time that asks for quick answers, the scientific salon offers a possibility for careful reflection on urgent topics, from a variety of perspectives.

### Panel members at the scientific salon:

Tiny Jaarsma, Professor at the Department of Health, Medicine, and Caring Sciences, LiU  
Ericka Johnson, Professor at the Department of Thematic Studies and the Centre for Medical Humanities and Bioethics, LiU  
Erik Reinicke, Project Leader at the Regional Management Office, Region Östergötland  
Karina Tellingner, Coordinator, Samordningskansliet vision e-hälsa 2025  
Håkan Örman, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Biomedical Engineering, LiU

15-17 JUNE 2022:

## Futures Ahead - Translations and Collaborations between Medicine, the Social Sciences and the Humanities

Facing the rapid introduction of innovations and new techniques in biotechnology, the medical and healthcare systems are being transformed in numerous ways. The goal of personalised medicine, tailored to fit the needs of the individual patient, and a striving towards equality in health are faced by such trends as a restructuring of welfare states, the rise of health consumerism, and an increase in the number of patients suffering from complex diseases. It is also becoming increasingly possible to screen for and identify risk groups and previously unrecognised symptoms in healthy, asymp-

tomatic populations. Further, the Corona pandemic raises ethical, philosophical and sociocultural questions that must be addressed, and the World Health Organization has identified multiple global health challenges, including outbreaks of communicable diseases and humanitarian crises caused by environmental pollution and climate change. The call for collaboration between medicine, the social sciences and the humanities has never been stronger.

We invite researchers within the fields of the humanities, the social sciences, and medicine who are seeking

to discuss the potential of collaboration, common goals and possible challenges in the field of medical humanities, broadly understood. We also welcome other stakeholders such as patients, health practitioners, and policy makers. The conference is organised by the Centre for Medical Humanities and Bioethics, Linköping University, and aims to contribute to both national and international discussions of central concern in the field of medical humanities and bioethics, understood broadly.

# Publications 2020/2021

## Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Agnafors, S., Barmark, M., & Sydsjö, G. (2020). Mental health and academic performance: a study on selection and causation effects from childhood to early adulthood. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*. Online first <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00127-020-01934-5>
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## Books and Book Chapters

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## Reports

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