

Rebuilding the Public Purpose: Beyond Alternatives to Austerity University

Community Room, L.R. Wilson Hall, McMaster University



February 28-29, 2020

Day 1: Friday February 28th, 2020

8:45-9:00: Registration, Opening Remarks

9:15-10:30: DEMOCRATIZING PUBLIC SPACE – I CHAIR: Bryan Evans

Stephen McBride (McMaster University): "Institutions for a New Public Purpose"

Laura Macdonald (Carleton University): "Democratizing Public Space and Jumping and Bridging Scales in North America"

Peter Graefe and Carol Anne Hudson (McMaster University): "The Adoption and Survival of Poverty-Reduction Initiatives: Lessons from Québec, Newfoundland and Labrador and Ontario"

10:45-11:00: Break

11:00-1:00: DEMOCRATIZING PUBLIC SPACE – II CHAIR: Heather Whiteside

Hermes Augusto Costa (University Coimbra): "Austerity in Portugal: impacts on labour actors and prospects for trade union (re)empowering"

Oscar Molina (UAB Barcelona): "Rebuilding Policy Concertation in Spain: New Actors and New Agendas"

Marco Marrone (University of Venice): "Rights Against the Machine! Informal Unionism, Urban Coalitions and Digital Platforms in the Flood Delivery Sector: The Case of Riders Union Bologna"

Steffen Lehndorff (Universität Duisburg-Essen): "A fragile triangle: Collective bargaining systems, trade unions and the state in the EU"

1:00-2:00: Break

2:00-3.30: *REPURPOSING PUBLIC CAPACITY AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISE – I CHAIR: Peter Graefe*

Heather Whiteside (University of Waterloo): "Re-Purposing Public Enterprise"

John Loxley (University of Manitoba): "Repurposing Public Capacity and Public Enterprise; Reversing Public Private Power Relations"

Zoë Yunker, Jessica Dempsey, & James K. Rowe (University of British Columbia): "The politics of pension transition: reimagining public investment in the era of climate change"

3.30-3.45: Break

3.45- 5.15: *REPURPOSING PUBLIC CAPACITY AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISE – II CHAIR: Stephen McBride*

David McDonald (Queen's University): "Public Banks + Public Water = SDGs?"

Martine August (University of Waterloo): "From Asset to Home: De-financializing housing, Resisting Displacement, and Reversing Austerity"

Susan Spronk (University of Otttawa): "Public water & sanitation or a public agenda for international aid"

Day 2: Saturday February 29th, 2020

9.30- 11.00: RECONCEPTUALIZING PUBLIC SERVICE -I CHAIR: Nour Afara

Bryan Evans (Ryerson University): "The Question of 'A Different Kind of State': Democratizing Public Administration"

Johnna Montgomerie (King's College London): "Alternatives to austerity: the progressive economic agenda for economic democracy"

Brendan K. O'Rourke, John Hogan, & Joseph K. FitzGerald (Technological University, Dublin): "Democratizing policy debates: Experts, Media and public involvement in the discourses of economy"

Dieter Plehwe (WZB): "Does the increasing reliance on behavioural economics serve to reconceptualize public service?"

11.00-11.15: Break

11.15 -1.00: RECONCEPTUALIZING PUBLIC SERVICE – II CHAIR: Bryan Evans

Meghan Joy & Ron Vogel (Concordia University & Ryerson University): "New Municipalism – Cities as the Cornerstone for a New Progressive Age?"

Carlo Fanelli & Mark P. Thomas (York University): "Austerity Urbanism and Recreation Restructuring: Impacts on Workers and Working Conditions"

Jonathan Davies (DeMontfort University): "Urban Resistance in "late" neoliberalism: A Conjunctural Regime Analysis of Weak Counter-Hegemony"