ESRC Seminar Series – Reconceptualising International Volunteering

RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES ON
RECONCEPTUALISING INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING

The seminar series is organised by Dr Angela M Benson (University of Brighton) in collaboration with Dr Konstantinos Tomazos (University of Strathclyde) and Dr Mark Hampton (University of Kent). The event is supported by ATLAS Volunteer Tourism Research Group.

Presenting the fourth in a series of six seminars

Seminar 4: Impact, Sustainability and Legacy
WEDNESDAY 20th APRIL, 2016
10.00 – 1600hrs
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland

Our International Speaker for this seminar is Wanda Vrasti, author of Volunteer Tourism in the Global South: Giving Back in Neoliberal Times. Wanda will be talking about the impact of volunteer tourism.

Wanda Vrasti is a Berlin-based writer, teacher and filmmaker who researches on political economy, social movement theories, radical feminism and the politics

Dr Jurgen Grotz, University of East Anglia and NCVO Institute for Volunteering Research will be talking on “Making an impression – lasting legacies”

Dr Jurgen Grotz, he has worked for the Royal National Institute for the Blind, the Big Lottery Fund, Volunteering England, and is now Research Manager at the Institute for Volunteering Research, part of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations in the UK, where he is responsible for research into all aspects of volunteering from micro volunteering to employer supported volunteering and local volunteering infrastructure. He is a Visiting Research Fellow at the University of East Anglia, UK, and a member of the Association for Research in the Voluntary and Community Sector (ARVAC), UK, in which he served first as Secretary and Editor and then as Vice Chair and Chair between 2007 and 2013. His 35 years of active engagement in the voluntary and community sector and 25 years of applied policy and practice research in Germany, China, and the UK have offered him insights into a great variety of subjects. He has written numerous reports on applied research, has contributed a Background Paper to the Project on ‘The State of the World’s Volunteerism Report 2011’ by the UN Volunteers (2011), and regularly contributes to the academic debate at conferences or in print.

Peter Bishop, Tourism Concern: Action for Ethical Tourism will be talking about Issues of Sustainability.

Peter is Programmes Manager for Tourism Concern where his responsibilities include running their Ethical Volunteering Group. He has always had a passion for
travel, but it was while running a design and marketing business in St Lucia, West Indies in the late 1990s – with many clients in the tourism industry – that Peter became increasingly passionate about campaigning for tourism that benefits ordinary people. On return to the UK in the early noughties, he completed an MSc in Development Management, specialising in tourism and began working in sustainable tourism. He has since worked on projects in Sri Lanka, India, Cambodia, Tobago and St Lucia. He became a trustee of Tourism Concern in 2006, stepping down in 2009 in order to work on various projects including the Gap Year and International Volunteering Standard.

Dr Konstantinos Tomazos, University of Strathclyde will be talking on “Orphan Tourism in Cambodia: Living with Contradiction, Symbiosis or just Compromise?”

A former volunteer tourist himself, Konstantinos is a Lecturer in International Tourism Management at the University of Strathclyde Business School. He is an expert in the field of volunteer tourism and he has investigated both the demand and supply for such experiences. In terms of the demand he has published on the motivations, expectations and outcomes for volunteer tourism participants, creating his own conceptualization of the ‘heroic’ volunteer tourist and the balancing act which is intrinsic to the volunteer tourist’s experience. In the process he has written and published on the role of altruism, instrumentalism and expected outcomes in terms of the possible motivations of the participants and the possible analogies and implications of this in terms of the management of volunteer tourists as reflexive volunteers. The investigation into the supply for volunteer tourism has led him into the field of social enterprise and the role that the third sector has played into the development of contemporary volunteer tourism. His most recent work on volunteer tourism focuses on the agency of local recipients and how they strive to make the most of opportunities presented by volunteer tourism.

HOW TO BOOK YOUR PLACE:

The event is free, but places are limited, so please book your place at

http://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-esrc-research-seminar-series-on-reconceptualising-international-volunteering-tickets-23447866199

TRAVEL SUBSIDIES ARE AVAILABLE:
Delegates from the following groups may be able to claim travel costs up to a maximum of £50 per delegate:
1. Charitable Organisations
2. Early Career Researchers
3. PhD Students
4. Master Students
5. People with Disability
6. Job seekers

Original receipts and proof of status would be required to support your claim.

Any Queries please email internationalvolunteering@brighton.ac.uk and Merz or Angela will assist you.