



Centre européen de ressources pour la
recherche en travail social (CERTS)

European resource centre for research
in social work (ERCSW)

In partnership with
the UMR Innovation, the PREFIS-LR and the IRTS Montpellier
the chair of Social work and social intervention at the Higher education institute for industrial
art and design (CNAM), the ETSUP (Higher school of social work)

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The Languedoc Roussillon Region
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Participative approaches in research in the field of social work Critical points of view

ERCSW Ninth research seminar

From December 7th to December 8th 2012
IRTS (Regional Institute for Social Work)
1011, rue du Pont de Lavérune - F 34070 MONTPELLIER

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

The debates which took place during the cycle of the ERCSW seminars centered around participative approaches to research in the field of social work disclosed the various systems of reference for the nature of research : clinical, involved, joint intervention. Most of them are focused on persons and some on systems. However, all of them are meant to accompany change. The participative approach as it is studied during the ERCSW seminars, fits more wide into an evolution which examines the connections between sciences and society. Researchers and Ph.D. students who took part in this cycle of seminars have all kept to this guideline throughout their investigations.

Three points of view were explored:

- The participation of the persons concerned by social work intervention
- The place of third parties or mediators
- Empowerment and relations based on power.

Simultaneously the different methodologies developed by researchers were taken into account and the following points emerged:

- The significance of:
 - o The description of the setting and development of the research process
 - o The positioning of the people involved
 - o The elaborating and/or co-construction of a common space
 - o The observation and epistemological positioning of the researcher
- The relevance of a cross-disciplinary approach and of the concern for transferring knowledge.

Research postures too are varied: from the researcher/teacher to the researcher/practitioner, by way of the researcher in social sciences.

Research is understood as a form of action, particularly as it integrates the presence of the contributor (professional, teacher or researcher); it is therefore a process which is both conceptual and practical and intended to produce usable knowledge, that is to say, to go beyond the separation between the epistemological and the pragmatic component. Concern for the participative process from the men and women involved in research gives a central position to relations based on power and sharing in the construction of research methods as well as its suiting as regards its results.

The purpose of this synthesis seminar is to review the different participative approaches of research in the field of social work by examining them all critically. Actually, many actors assert the value of participation: decision makers of public policies, social institutions, social movements. The Council of Europe, for example, values the involvement of citizens and grants a special support to social programs which favour the contributions of destitute or excluded people. However, the label "participative" is absolutely not a guarantee in itself of the reality of this participation.

The call for communications is based on four questions:

- ◇ Do these participative approaches in the research in social work enable the participation of the persons concerned by social measures? And if so, under which conditions?
- ◇ Does participation in the research process generate a democratization of practices for social workers, researchers, as well as the persons concerned?
- ◇ Is it possible to identify research trends belonging either to existing disciplinary traditions or to emerging currents which support epistemological study of these researches rooted in participative approaches?
- ◇ Do the works stemming from such research stand a chance of being discussed and recognized as valuable, when confronted to the assessment of research in social sciences today?

This call is aimed at:

- Researchers and Ph.D. students in the field of social work interested in the theme examined during this seminar,
- Professionals from the field of social work who are interested and involved in participative research on social work practices,
- All members of the ERCSW and all those who have taken part in previous seminars.

Synthesis being the purpose of this seminar, a special effort is required from the speaker, as regards the context of the research, study or analysis, from the viewpoint of the country or research trends mobilized. Thus we will be able to put research works in a comparative European perspective.

Languages used at the seminar: French, English.

Schedule:

- Abstracts must be sent in on October 21st 2012 at the latest.
- Texts must be handed on November 30th, 2012 at the latest;
- Abstracts must be handed in electronic form, in the language used to read it, as well as the five key-words in French and English to: dpaturel@supagro.inra.fr and to secretariat@certs-europe.com

A publication is planned after the seminar.

Scientific committee

Elisabeth Callu (PREFAS GRIF, France) Yuna Chiffolleau (UMR 951 Innovation, Montpellier, France) Geneviève Crespo (CERTS, France) Hervé Drouard (AFFUT, France) Jean FOUCARD (Haute Ecole Louvain, Belgium), Chantal GOYAU (ETSUP, France), Mariusz Granosik (University of Lodz, Poland) Olivier Griffith (PREFIS LR, Montpellier), Anita Gulczynska (University of Lodz, Poland), Marcel Jaeger (CNAM Paris, France) Philippe Lyet (IRTESS Dijon, France), Ewa Marynowicz-Hetka (University of Lodz, Poland), Guy Noel Pasquet (Paul Valery University, Montpellier, France) Dominique Paturel (UMR 951 Innovation, Montpellier, France), Jonas Rukus (Kaunas University, Lithuania) Stephane Rullac (BUC, France).

The seminar will take place at

The Regional Institute for Social Work (IRTS)
1011, rue du Pont de Lavérune
34070 MONTPELLIER

To reach the institute : <http://www.irts.lr.fr/contact-acces.html>

- ◆ **Opening of the seminar:** Friday, December 7th, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.
Participants are free to arrive as early as 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ **Closing of the seminar:** Saturday, December 8th, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.
- ◆ **Annual general meeting of the ERCSW:** Saturday, December 8th, 2012 at 11:45 a.m.
Open to all participants

To go to Montpellier

Few airlines serve Montpellier airport. Therefore, it is best to get there by train (TGV). If you fly to France, you can take a train:

- ♦ From Paris: at the TGV train station Roissy/Charles-de-Gaulle which is in the airport itself
- ♦ From Lyon: at the TGV train station Lyon St Exupéry, right by the airport (5 minutes' walk).

You can benefit from reduced fares, if you book your seat long enough in advance.

For reservations : <http://www.voyages-sncf.com/>
(interface in several languages – click on a flag in the right hand corner).

The bus line n°11 goes directly from St Roch railway station (TGV) to the IRTS (last stop : “Les Bouisses”) in about 20 to 25 minutes. Buses leave the station every 8 minutes (on Saturdays, every 10 minutes).

Accommodation

On the site of the tourist information centre (www.ot-montpellier.fr - interface in English) you will find useful information to choose and book a room. You can reach the IRTS by public transport (look it up on the site, at the above-mentioned address). Maps of the bus and tramway networks are available on the site of the tourist office.

Those who get to Montpellier by train have better select a hotel on the route of the bus n°11 (check the “accommodation plan” of the tourist office).

Registration fees

Registration fees are € 100 per person (lunches, dinner and coffees included), € 50 for Ph.D. students. Transport and accommodation are at the charge of the participants.

Payment by cheque to the INRA is to be sent with the registration bulletin.

For payments from abroad by cash transfer order, bank details will be sent on request mentioned on the registration bulletin.

Registration and stay free of charge for 10 doctoral students

The ERCSW offers free room and board and registration fees to 10 doctorants (The fare to get to Montpellier will be left at their expenses). Students who are interested are kindly asked to contact Dominique Paturel (name and address hereunder) who will give them useful information to attend the seminar free of charge.

Registration

The registration bulletin must imperatively be handed in **before November 20th, 2012** to

Dominique PATUREL INRA-UMR Innovation
2, place Viala - 34060 MONTPELLIER
dpaturel@supagro.inra.fr