Technologies of Mind and Body in the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc

Location: University Park Campus, Nottingham

Friday 17th of May

9.00 – 9.15 Registration
9.15 – 9.30 Welcome
9.30 – 10.15 **Keynote Address:** Frances Lee Bernstein (Drew University)
10.15 – 10.30 Coffee Break
10.30 – 12.15 Panel 1:

**Revolutionary Embodiment in Theory and Practice**

*Chair: tbc*

Johanna Conterio (Flinders), ‘Beyond the Human Machine: Theories of Embodiment in Stalinist Medicine, 1928-1953’

Ben Krupp (Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), ‘How to Make a Soviet Body: Exercise as a Practice of Biopolitics’

Pavel Vasilyev (VLJI/Siberian State Medical University), ‘Comrade Liadov Was Right: Eliminating Menstruation in the Soviet Twentieth Century’

Anna Ozhiganova (IEA, Russian Academy of Sciences), ‘“Sun, Air and Water – Our Best Friends”: Infants’ Strengthening and Swimming in the Soviet Union’

12.15 – 1.30 Panel 2:

**Expert Knowledge and Disciplinary Power I: Diagnosis, Surveillance and Resistance**

*Chair: Sarah Badcock (Nottingham)*

Rebecca Reich (Cambridge), ‘Dissent, Insanity and the Struggle over Diagnostic Authority after Stalin’


Siobhán Hearne (Durham) ‘Transforming Sexual Behaviour in Soviet Latvia: The Relationship between Medicine and Law Enforcement’
1.30 – 2.15 Lunch
2.15 – 4.00 Panel 3:

**Grappling with the More-than-human: Socialist Cybernetics**

*Chair: tbc*

Diana Kurkovsky West (Northwestern), ‘Analog’ Cybernetics: Did Soviet Robots Have a (More) Human Face?’

Maros Krivy (Cambridge), ‘Automation or Meaning?: Socialism, Humanism and Cybernetics in *Etarea*’

Anja Werner (MLU, Halle-Wittenberg), ‘Cyborgs Made in the GDR?: The Story of the East German Cochlea Implant (CI)’

Claire Shaw (Warwick), ‘Not Everyone Will Be Taken Into The Future: Disability and Soviet Dreams of the Cyborg’

4.00 – 4.15 Coffee Break

4.15 – 6.00 Panel 4:

**Healing the Socialist Soul: Psychotherapy in the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc**

*Chair: tbc*

Tricia Starks (University of Arkansas), ‘Soviet Pioneers in Smoking Cessation: The *Narkodispensary* of the 1920s’

Aleksandra Brokman (University of East Anglia), ‘New Soviet Patients: Psychotherapeutic Treatment and the Quest for the Transformation of Human Beings’

Sarah Marks (Birkbeck), ‘Preventing the Side Effects of Socialism: Self Hypnosis in East Germany’

Anna Toropova (Nottingham), ‘The Hypnotic Screen: Early Soviet Film Psychotherapy’

6:30 Conference Dinner
Saturday 18th May

9.15 – 10.00 **Keynote Address**: Lilya Kaganovskly (Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

10.00 – 11.15 Panel 5:  
**Object of State Care: The Ageing and Disabled Body under Socialism**  
*Chair: Claire Shaw (Warwick)*


Frank Henschel, (Kiel/Leipzig), ‘Children and Youth in Need of Special Care as Objects of Biopolitics in Socialist Czechoslovakia’

Susan Grant (Liverpool John Moores), ‘The Ageing Body and Mind: Soviet Gerogigiena and the “New” Older People’

11.15 – 11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 – 1.15 Panel 6:  
**Senses of Technology: Mass Media and Visual Culture**  
*Chair: tbc*

Emma Widdis (Cambridge), ‘Sensate Socialism: The “Feeling Machines” of Soviet Productionism’

Nick Baron (Nottingham), ‘Transforming Vision: Maps and Technologies of Seeing in the Soviet 1930s’

Oksana Sarkisova (CEU, Budapest), ‘From The Blind to New Vision: Sergei Tretiakov and Soviet Ethnographic Optics’

Ekaterina Vikulina (RSUH, Moscow), ‘Media, Science and the Body in the Soviet Photography of the 1960s’

1.15 – 2.00 Lunch

2.00 – 3.45 Panel 7:  
**Expert Knowledge and Disciplinary Power II: Psychology, Pedology, Criminology**  
*Chair: tbc*

Andy Byford (Durham), ‘Pedology as Occupational Work in the Early Soviet Union, 1920s-30s’
Kenneth Pinnow (Allegheny College), ‘Their Bodies, Ourselves: The Criminal Personality as a Field of Technology and Self-Fashioning in the Early Soviet Union’

Andrei Korbut (HSE, Moscow), ‘New Woman/Man vs. Real Woman/Man: The Labour Method in Soviet Psychotechnics’

Zhipeng Gao (York University, Toronto) ‘The Rebirth of the New Socialist Human through the Demise of Pavlovian Psychology in China’

3.45 – 4.00 Coffee Break

4.00 – 5.15 Panel 8:

**Mind-Body Management: Everyday Techniques and Practices**

*Chair: Susan Reid (Loughborough)*

Jessica Werneke (Loughborough), ‘Technologies of Leisure: Amateur Club Photography in the Soviet Union’

Anna Koźlova (EU, St. Petersburg), ‘Bringing Up the Best by Excellent Rest: Ideology, Paradoxes and Pedagogical Techniques of the All-Union Soviet Children’s Camps Artek and Orlyonok’

Natalia Savelyeva (University of Tyumen), ‘Technologies of Mind in the Late Soviet Period: The Case of the Moscow Methodological Circle’

5.15 – 5.30 Closing Remarks

5.30 Conference Ends