

## Theories and models used in research on sickness absence and disability pension

Sickness absence is a very complex phenomenon and requires research from many different perspectives and scientific disciplines, using various theories and models. Moreover, interdisciplinary research is warranted. However, to take our research forward, we need to be more aware of the different theories used in this research, where our own research fits in and what theories we actually use.

Research on sickness absence is conducted within economy, law, philosophy, political science, psychology, sociology, management, medicine, public health, epidemiology, etcetera – all using different theories.

At this pre-conference we will explore different such theories and discuss those that each of us use and what we can learn from others, to take our research forward.

Venue: Milano Congresso, Milan, Italy

Time: lunch-to-lunch Wednesday 14 – Thursday 15 October 2015

Organizing committee: Claus D. Hansen, Emilie Friberg, Kristina Alexanderson

### Programme

#### Wednesday 14 October 2015

- 12:30      ■ Lunch
  - 13:30      ■ Welcome and introduction: Theories and scientific disciplines in sickness absence research.  
  
Kristina Alexanderson, Professor, PhD, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden, and president of the EUPHA Section of Social Security, Work & Health
  - 13:50      ■ Sociological perspectives on sickness absence. Claus D. Hansen, Associate Professor, PhD, Aalborg University, Denmark
  - 14:20      ■ Research of sickness absence from a law perspective. Genevieve Grant, PhD, Monash University, Australia
  - 15:20      ■ Short presentation of participates
  - 15:25      ■ Workshop 1. What theories and models do we use in our projects? (Including coffee/tea in the Gold Hall, 15 minutes)
  - 16:25      ■ Reports from the groups and discussion
  - 16:55      ■ Summing up and preparation for day two
  - 17:00      ■ End of afternoon programme
  - 18.00      ■ Joint pre-conference dinner and continued discussions
- OBS – paid by each participant at site!

## Thursday 15 October 2015

- 8:30 ■ Recollection of yesterday and presentation of today's schedule
- 8:35 ■ Medical perspectives related to sickness absence. Thomas Dorner, Assistant Professor, PhD, Medical University Vienna, Austria
- 9:05 ■ Social determinants of health disparities in lesbian, gay and bisexual populations - implications for sick-leave and disability pension. Richard Bränström, Associate Professor, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
- 9:35 ■ A model for analyzing trends in age, sex, and socioeconomic differences in diagnoses-based sickness absence over time. Ossi Rahkonen, Professor, PhD, University of Helsinki, Finland
- 10:10 ■ Coffee/tea (Gold Hall)
- 10:25 ■ Workshop 2. What other models or theories would take my research forward.
- 11:15 ■ Reports from the groups and discussion
- 11:35 ■ What have we learned and how to we move forward? Joint discussions. Claus D Hansen and Emilie Friberg, Researcher, PhD, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
- 11:55 ■ Summing up of the pre-conference. Gunnel Hensing, Professor, PhD, Göteborg University, Vice President, of the EUPHA Section of Social Security, Work & Health
- 12:00 ■ Lunch

This, as the previous pre-conferences of the EUPHA Section on Social Security, Work and Health, will be a meeting place for the sickness absence researchers of Europe – to learn, develop, initiate different types of collaborations, and enjoy!

**You are most welcome!**

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