

# Fielding Challenges, Challenging the Field

The methodologies of mobility

27 - 28 September 2013  
Kellogg College, Oxford

[www.compas.ox.ac.uk/mobmeth](http://www.compas.ox.ac.uk/mobmeth)

An international workshop on new methodological and theoretical questions emerging in the ethnography of mobility



Jointly organised by the Anthropology and Mobility Network of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) with the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), the Qualitative Methods Hub for the Social Sciences Division (OxQualHub), University of Oxford, and Cultural Mobilities Research (CuMoRe), University of Leuven

Convenors: Jamie Coates (Australian National University), Alice Elliot (University of Leuven) and Roger Norum (University of Oxford)



**FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER**

**08.30–09:00**

**REGISTRATION & COFFEE**

**09:00–09:15**

**WELCOME**

**09:15–10:00**

**KEYNOTE: HANS LUCHT, COPENHAGEN**

**10:00–12:00**

**Panel 1A: ARCHIVES & DOCUMENTS**

**Panel 1B: TECHNOLOGIES & TECHNIQUES**

Shuhua Chen, St Andrews—Archive Tells: ‘Multi-sited’ fieldwork in a single place

Jonah Rimer, Oxford—The mobility of internet sex offenders through online and offline realms

Katja Uusihakala, Helsinki—Fairbridge memories: Remembering British child migration to colonial Southern Rhodesia

Kira C. Allmann, Oxford—Network error: How mobility informs digital ethnographies of the Arab Spring

Susanne Osterlund-Potsch, Åbo Akademi—Bodies in motion: Movement as performance in early Finland-Swedish ethnographic expeditions

John McManus, Oxford—Should all anthropologists have iPhones? Reflections on phenomenological approaches to fieldwork

Miia Halme-Tuomisaari, Max Plank Institute—Mobile yet stagnant: Examining human rights monitoring

Marilou Polymeropoulou, Oxford—‘All I need is in my backpack’: Mobility, methods and challenges in the digital field

Discussant DAVID MILLS, OXFORD

Discussant ERIC MEYER, OXFORD

**12:00–13:30**

**LUNCH**

13:30–15:00

**Panel 2A: BECOMING & SETTLING**

Chris Vasantkumar, Hamilton College—Scattered places or scattered in place? Rethinking the relationship between anthropology, mobility and diaspora

Nayana Bibile, New South Wales—The imaginary of hope, the dynamics of resettling and uneven equalities

Sean O'Dubhghaill, Leuven—Mobilising theoretical methodologies of involvement: Becoming-European and the Irish diaspora in Belgium

Discussant TBA

**Panel 2B: ILLEGALITIES & ALEGALITIES**

Ruben Andersson, Stockholm—Mobile fieldwork in Europe's 'illegality industry': some methodological reflections

Annette Idler, Oxford—Multi-site fieldwork in Colombia's most neglected and war-torn borderlands: A methodological account of three 'mobility challenges'

Ines Hasselberg, Oxford—Nothing to observe, nothing to participate in: On the methodological challenges of an anthropological study of removal

Discussant TBA

15:00–15:30

**COFFEE**

15:30–17:00

**Panel 3: JOURNEYS AND MOTIONS**

Andre Novoa, Royal Holloway—A country on wheels: A mobile ethnography of Portuguese lorry drivers

Hege Høyer Leivestad, Stockholm—Materiality of mobility: Methodology on wheels

Joris Schapendonk, Utrecht—Follow the migrant: Methodological challenges and ethical questions of a trajectory ethnography

Discussant JONNY STEINBERG, OXFORD

19:30 DINNER

**SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER**

**09:00–10:00**

**KEYNOTE: NOEL SALAZAR, LEUVEN**

**10:00–10:30**

**COFFEE**

**10:30–12:00**

**Panel 4A: VISUALITIES**

Yasmin Gunaratnam, Goldsmiths—Mortal choreographies

Christian Vium, Copenhagen—Itinerant bodies and elusive trajectories: Applying photography as method in multi-sited ethnographic research on undocumented migration from West Africa to Europe

Julie Lynn Fischer, MIT—Interviews through the looking glass: How Skype video-over-IP alters the landscape of the qualitative research interview

Discussant DAVID ZEITLYN, OXFORD

**Panel 4B: AFFECTS**

Raluca Nagy, ULB Brussels—For an ‘affected’ ethnography of mobility

Paolo Boccagni, Trento—Mapping migrants’ affective ties over a distance through ethnography: Multi-sited, multi-relational, and the crucial ‘inbetween’

Lee Siewpeng, Brunel—Applying Lefebvre’s rhythmanalysis to research on migration: Some ruminations

Discussant DAVID PICARD, NEW UNIVERSITY OF LISBON

**12:00–13.00**

**LUNCH**

13:00–14:30

**Panel 5A: STUDYING UP AND SIDEWAYS**

Mari Korpela, Tampere —Beyond methodological nationalism: Learning from the lifestyle migrant children in Goa, India

Anna Lipphardt, Freiburg—Grounding the mobile success story: On the challenge of interviewing artists

Guillaume Dumont, Madrid—Where is the field? The fluxes and flows of an ethnography in movement

Discussant MICHAELA BENSON, GOLDSMITHS

**Panel 5B: FIELDS AND FIXITIES**

Kathrine Ann Cagat, SOAS—Open fields: Negotiating mobility in Ifugao Province

Haosen Hu, East China Normal—Network as field

Jessica Chu, SOAS—Fixedness and mobility in ‘Land Grabs’ in Zambia: How do we know what we know?

Discussant ALICE ELLIOT, LEUVEN

14:30–15:00

**COFFEE**

15:00–16:30

**Panel 6: IMAGINARIES**

Valerio Simoni, Lisbon—Uncovering multiplicity: Ethnography of touristic encounters in Cuba and its theoretical implications

Katarzyna Wolanik-Boström, Umeå and Magnus Öhlander, Södertörn and Stockholm—Mobile physicians encountering other ‘cultures’ – on ethnographic sensibility and authority

Branwyn Poleykett, Cambridge—Sensing ‘capacity’: tracing mobile cultures of science

Discussant SIMONE ABRAM, LEEDS MET

16:30–17:15

**FINAL WORDS**

17:15

**PUB DRINKS IN OXFORD, all welcome!**