

WORK2015 – Place of theory in working life research

Chair:

Seppo Poutanen, University of Turku, FI

What is the place and function of social theory (broadly understood) in the working life research? How does theory become part of the explanations given and reflections outlined in the studies of the working life? Currently, work and its different manifestations and meanings at individual and societal levels are all in the process of rapid and most often unforeseen changes. It can be presumed that working life research as an object of study and as a field of social sciences also meets new theoretical and methodological challenges. But what is the nature of these challenges in relation to more general theory development in social sciences? For example, might there appear such opportunities of theory reform and renewal for working life/work/labour research that carry their importance beyond the conventional limits of a special field?

Friday, 21 August at 13.30-15.00 - Session 8

18.01

How Values of Self-employed Influence their Future Path?
Sandra Brigsa, Latvia

18.02

Quality of Working life (QWL) index for analyzing business performance
Marko Kesti, Finland

18.03

Bringing class back in: Bourdieu and the sociology of work
Carina Altreiter, Austria