

Academic meeting 16 May 2012 Ersta Sköndal University College

Participants: Clara Aarts, Ulrica Hörberg, Margaretha Ekebergh, Ingegerd Fagerberg, Elizabeth Rosser, Ann Hemingway, Liselott Ozolins, Lisbeth Urenfeld, Pranee Lundgren, Hanneke van der Meide, Mats Holmberg and Elisabeth Lindberg

Apologies: Birgitta Edlund, Uppsala University, Shirley Bach, University of Brighton, Kate Galvin, University of Hall, Les Todres, University of Bournemouth, Annie Chellel, University of Brighton, Stuart McClean, , University of West England, John Allabran, University of West England

Agenda:

Appologies and Welcome, (ME)

Prof. Margaretha Ekebergh welcomes the participants and forwards EACS's appreciation to Ersta Sköndal University College and prof. Ingegerd Fagerbergh for hosting the meeting. IF gave a short presentation of Ersta Sköndal University College.

Short summary from last meeting

Web site (see the discussions later in this paper)

A proposal for poster and flyer was discussed on the business meeting yesterday. The poster shall be further developed and ME takes responsibility for this. The members were encouraged to think about coming conferences where the poster can be used.

Funding and grants will be discussed further.

A mini conference is planned in spring 2013 at Aarhus University. The theme for the conference is "Next generation of Caring Science".

All themes have publications in QHW, special issue, spring 2012. Karin Dahlberg's support for this publication was recognized and the members expressed their gratitude's to her contribution. This common publication from EACS members is an important production according to the mission. The publications were celebrated with a cake.

Information about the webpage, CA

Clara Aarts is responsible for the web page and she asks members to send contributions for publishing on the webpage, do not forget to inform her if there are open access. Clara also reminds people to send photos and their CV for publishing on the homepage.

Clara is also going to link to the "EACS papers" published in QHW

Agendas and minutes from EACS meetings are to be published on the webpage.

It was suggested that the EACS logo should be placed in the top of the first page and that all logos from the University should be in an English version underneath.

As soon as the date for the EACS conference in Aarhus University is decided they will be published on the homepage.

A new tab for PhD- students was suggested. The aim was to help PhD- students networking

Special Guest Maria Arman, Senior Lecturer, Division of Nursing, Karolinska Institutet (the presentation is tape recorded and is available on the homepage)

Maria Arman was invited to talk about “The Nordic Caring Science Tradition”. Lisbeth Urenfeld had prepared a draft of a manuscript about the history of caring science from a Scandinavian perspective based on Martinsen and Erikson’s contribution in parts. This draft of a manuscript was also discussed and Lisbeth likes comments on her paper.

Maria’s project (which is an ongoing, not yet finished project) started as a response to the lack of knowledge about the theoretical foundation in the Nordic caring science tradition. The lack of knowledge is also a foundation for misunderstandings leading to a hostile attitude towards caring science. The aim is also to create a new level of abstraction by the examining of the essential characteristics of the three Nordic theorists: Katie Eriksson, Kari Martinsen and Karin Dahlberg.

Maria Arman started her presentation by presenting a brief presentation of the three theorists.

In the synthesis of the three theorists Arman et.al has developed nine assumptions:

1. The ontology
2. The in between “a fellow human being”. This assumption is “at heart” in the Nordic tradition. Visible in all three theorists work. The caring encounter. Caring relationship.
3. Caring is natural. The professional attitude can sometimes stand in the way for natural caring.
4. The person before the diagnosis. The patient is visible as the suffering human being (Eriksson), as the vulnerable human being (Martinsen) and as a human being in need of care (Dahlberg).
5. Health, wellbeing and alleviate suffering (This are core concepts in the theories)
6. The caring can be obvious when it is lacking in a situation: Negative impact of nursing care (Eriksson, Dahlberg) and raise issues about deficiencies in care (Martinsen). A common message is to make health care professional conscious and aware.
7. Ethics first
8. Development of epistemology and discipline: Caring science as autonomous discipline not bound to profession
9. Development of research approach that embraces the caring science. Hermeneutic and concept development (Eriksson), Phenomenology and hermeneutic (Martinsen) and reflective lifeworld research (Dahlberg).

Theme work

The themes were asked to discuss future strategies for funding. ME had a proposal that the themes were able to respond on.

In accordance a joint decision was made about focusing on the older person in a proposal for funding.

Report from each theme:

- Transcultural theme: Discussions about focusing on the older person from a cultural perspective
- Public Health theme: Examining the theories students bring with them in to the public health education
- Lifeworld led care: How do we support students to learn to care for older people?

A common agreement was to start to write one paper proposal for EU funding with a common project, which could expand to the different themes. This paper can circulate to the members during the writing process, to involve everyone in this work, with the goal to have a final version of a preliminary proposal to next meeting in Brighton in November.

A suggestion for a common theme was:

“A concern for the future: Caring for the care of the older person”.

Next meeting and coming conferences

The next meeting was suggested to take place in Brighton. As no representatives from the University of Brighton were present ME is set to investigate this possibility. No date for the next meeting was decided. This will be notified as soon as it is decided.

➤ *Update: next meeting in Brighton will be in November 8th & 9th.*

The EACS meeting in spring 2013 will take place in Aarhus in Denmark. A mini conference is also planned in junction with this meeting. The theme of the conference is “Next generation in caring science”.