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# Narrative Medicine in Denmark

How can literary texts and methods improve the education of physicians and health care professionals?

The vision for Human Health's research project "Narrative Medicine" is to become an integral part of the Danish healthcare system with SDU as the leading site for development of innovative forms of health promotion, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care, education activities as well as international research collaboration.



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University of Southern Denmark has implemented narrative medicine as a mandatory course in undergraduate medical education and as an elective course in postgraduate health care education. This seminar examines and discusses the potential of narrative medicine – and medical humanities – in Denmark and elsewhere through a keynote lecture by **professor Rita Charon** from Columbia University and lectures by Danish professors from Odense and Copenhagen.

Photo credit: Erica Lansner

# Seminar Program:

# Welcome

14.15-14.30: Professor Anne-Marie Mai (SDU, Literature) and Assistant Professor Anders Juhl Rasmussen (SDU, Narrative medicine) *An overview of research and teaching in narrative medicine at SDU.* 

# **Keynote lecture**

14.30-15.30: Professor Rita Charon (Columbia University, Medicine) In which way and to what extent is narrative medicine an interdisciplinary practice? How has the field been consolidated at Columbia, and what are the potentials of collaboration with SDU?

### Break: 15.30-15.45

#### Lecture

15.45-16.30: Professor Helle Ploug Hansen (SDU, Health care) In which way can research in creative writing workshops for people with chronic illnesses be implemented in courses in narrative medicine?

# Lecture

16.30-17.15: Professor Kaare Christensen (SDU, Medicine) How can research in health, treatment and quality of life in elderly people be implemented in courses in narrative medicine, and vice versa?

# Lecture

17.15-18.00: Professor Michael Kjær (University of Copenhagen, Medicine)

> What are the advantages and challenges of introducing an elective course on aesthetic narratives and ethics in postgraduate medical education at University of Copenhagen?

# Panel

18.15-19.00: Chaired by Associate Professor Anette Søgaard Nielsen (SDU, Health care).

Participants: Rita Charon, Anne-Marie Mai, Professor Jens Søndergaard (SDU, Medicine), Astrid Næraa and Kristian Hald (SDU, Medical students)

How can the collaboration between the medical faculty, the university hospital and the faculty of humanities be improved at SDU? Which current ideals in health care like "patient involvement", "empowerment" and "health literacy" can narrative medicine help realize? What are the short- and long-term perspectives of narrative medicine in Denmark?

# Reception: 19.00 - ?

Participation by enrolment only. Please register your interest in attending the seminar no later than august 12, 2019 by using the link: https://tilmeld.events/NarrativeMedicine

Participation in the seminar is free of charge.

For enquiries please contact Research Assistant Tine Riis Andersen: tiri@sdu.dk