



Wednesday Seminars

SOMMERSEMESTER 2018

In Kooperation
mit den
Wiener Dialogen
der Medizin-
anthropologie

Tony O'Brien

Cultural challenges in health systems and improvement of health care. Employing anthropological findings in the diverse social environment of the Irish Health Sector

Mittwoch 21.03.2018, 17.00, HS C, IKSA, NIG, Universitätsstraße 7, 1010 Wien, 4. Stock



Tony O'Brien has been Director General of Ireland's Health Service since 2012. This is an organisation of over 125,000 personnel providing primary, community, acute hospital, social care, mental

health, emergency planning and ambulance services. It has a budget of €15Bn.

Tony O'Brien is Adjunct Ass. Professor in Health Strategy and Management at Trinity College Dublin; Associate Faculty and Council Member at the Irish Management Institute; Vice President Institute of Public Administration; Doctoral researcher in health system leadership at University College Dublin.

He is a member of the Irish government's Public service Leadership Board.

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...kommende Termine

11.04.2018 **Graham Roberts**

Queering the Stitch: Fashion, Masculinity and the Post-Socialist Subject

Large healthcare organizations are widely regarded as amongst the most complex work environments, when compared with any other professional or organizational construct. Typical industrial era hierarchical forms of governance and leadership have been applied to healthcare environments for many decades with varying degrees of success. In Ireland this approach is not regarded as having been successful.

The operating and cultural environment in the Irish health service had become particularly unstable. A large scale policy driven structural change had been only partially completed just as the economic crisis of 2009 led to the collapse of Ireland's public finances. The health sector lost over 10% of its work force. Incentivized exit schemes particularly targeting the higher paid and more senior staff, led to a loss of institutional memory and stability. Substantial pay cuts and higher workloads were the reward for those who remained.

As Ireland emerged from its economic crisis, efforts to improve the quality of health care and improve the organization's culture led to the trialing of new approaches to collective and representative leadership.

These approaches employ anthropological findings in facilitating new forms of community and cultural leadership in a values based renewal process. This engagement embraces the identification and selection of 'backstage' leaders. The overall aim is to test the potential to create a grassroots social movement within the organisation.