

[Uneven Distribution of Humanity: The 2018 Research Institute for Interdisciplinary Medical Humanities](#)

Announcement published by Yin Wang on Monday, June 25, 2018

Type:

Workshop

Location:

Taiwan

Subject Fields:

Cultural History / Studies, History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, Humanities, Literature, Women's & Gender History / Studies

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

The 2018 Research Institute for Interdisciplinary Medical Humanities "Uneven Distribution of Humanity"

November 2-4, 2018

**National Cheng Kung University
Tainan, Taiwan**

The inaugural Research Institute for Interdisciplinary Medical Humanities (IMH 2018) at National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan is scheduled to be held on November 2-4, 2018. This year's theme is: "Uneven Distribution of Humanity."

This Research Institute will examine literary and cultural productions of illness, disability, and ageing (primarily from North America, East Asia and Western Europe), their intervention, and the consequences they yield in their major target market and beyond. We are particularly concerned with narratives of illness and healing that reveal a society's discourse of normalcy and measurement of human worth, arts that engage with the public regarding harsh realities of disability and the governance of vulnerable populations, and critiques of ageism that elucidate biopolitical interest and technologies of neoliberal rule. We aim to explore interdisciplinary methods of understanding how health inequalities intersect with social injustice, exacerbate the asymmetrical distribution of humanity between the privileged and disadvantaged, and hence reinstate sovereign power without holding states or corporations accountable.

The Institute will consist of three days of keynote speeches and discussions led by **Michael Davidson** (Literature, University of California at San Diego, U.S.A.), **David**

T. Mitchell and Sharon L. Snyder (English, The George Washington University, U.S.A.), and **Sally Chivers** (English, Trent University, Canada). In addition, there will be research showcases (by invited literary and cultural studies scholars based in Taiwan and participants in the Institute), roundtables (of scholars approaching medical practices and medical institutions from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds), and film screenings (to elaborate the theme of this year in multiple settings).

The Research Institute welcomes applications from graduate students, academics, and community workers working in Taiwan, across Asia, and beyond. We are able to provide conference materials, food, and accommodation for all participants during the Institute. We regret to say that international participants will have to cover their own travel expenses. Those who are interested in joining us at IMH 2018 are kindly requested to fill out the application form online at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/14M5vOj3742l_qi1-u95HwVsXe_PzBA0Br8NzGz8cEfM/viewform?edit_requested=true> by **July 15, 2018**. We can only accommodate up to 40 participants. The acceptance results will be announced by August 15, 2018.

The Research Institute for Interdisciplinary Medical Humanities is a multi-campus collaborative project generously sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology in Taiwan, with additional support from National Chiao Tung University and National Cheng Kung University. Members of the organizing committee include Pin-chia Feng, Chen-hsing Tsai, Hsin-ju Kuo, Shu-li Chang, Min-tser Lin, Pei-chen Liao, and Yin Wang.

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