Osaka University

Ethnography Lab International Workshop and Open Lecture



Constructive Anthropology: Collaborative Projects in Research and Education

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Open Lecture: Building a Constructive Anthropology

TIME: February 14, 2019, 16:00-17:30

PLACE: Osaka University, School of Human Sciences, North Building, 2F Learning Commons

Abstract: Drawing mainly on practical examples from teaching applied anthropology and from his work in *AnthroAnalysis* – a research unit of collaborative anthropology – Dr Jöhncke will present models and types of *constructive anthropology* that moves beyond the idea of "application": It involves a commitment to the practical concerns and challenges of industries and organizations, yet the understanding of problems and solutions is recast in anthropological terms and concepts. It is argued that this approach implies a different conceptualization of anthropological knowledge based in dialogue and praxis, and it points to the need for different formats of teaching anthropology and for the appreciation of a broader set of competencies in anthropology graduates.

<u>International Workshop: Collaborative projects: Learning through engagement with</u> other people's problems

TIME: February 15, 2019, 13:30-16:30

PLACE: Osaka University, School of Human Sciences, Main Building, 5F Room M523

Abstract: The workshop will be a combination of short presentations and participants' work with practical challenges requiring anthropological exploration. The workshop is based on experience drawn from projects in *AnthroAnalysis* — a research unit of collaborative anthropology: Critically constructive anthropological thinking is required on all stages of the collaborative process. In this workshop we will work with the first steps where participants are requested to use their anthropological thinking to explore "problem narratives" and to suggest formats for empirical exploration. Implications of this approach for collaborative relationships are also discussed.

Dr Steffen Jöhncke is currently visiting professor in the Department of Educational Anthropology, Danish School of Education, University of Aarhus, Denmark. For more than three decades he has explored the practices and theories of application in what he calls *constructive anthropology* at the interface between academia and practical challenges experienced by public and private organizations. He has considerable experience in putting anthropological methods and analyses to work in projects with industries, bureaucracies, and NGOs, and he has taught a range of courses on organizational, business related and applied anthropology from graduate to doctoral level.