



# PSYCHOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY TODAY: THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL INTERVEN- TIONS IN AN INTERCONNECTED WORLD

Workshop of the psychological anthropology network of the German  
Anthropological Association (DGSKA)

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2022

Co-hosted by the Research Group Ageing in a Time of Mobility, MPI-MMG

- by invitation only -

Recognizing the diverse foci this subfield has examined since its inception – from culture and personality to explorations of cognitive processes, embodiment, self and personhood, emotions, altered states of consciousness, mental illness, and neuroanthropology – we have chosen the broad lens of ‘interventions’ to think through our respective projects. We invite participants to reflect on what this term implies for their work as psychological anthropologists, and in the context of an

increasingly interconnected but unequal world. Where and how are psychological anthropologists making interventions – to academic debates, fields of practice, or in the lives of the people with whom we work? How do anthropologists study, participate in, or resist psychological interventions that are desired by, or imposed on, people in very different life worlds? And what specific kind of interventions or practices do we need as scholars to support our work in psychological anthropology?

With a keynote lecture by Professor EDWARD D. LOWE (Soka University of America)  
entitled “The Why and Whither for Psychological Anthropology in its Second Century”

The presentations at the workshop will be grouped into three broad panels:

1. Psychological Anthropology Interventions into Current Academic Debates
2. Interventions, Innovations and Intervisions within Psychological Anthropology
3. Studying Psychological Interventions in Different Fields of Practice



Max Planck Institute for the Study of  
Religious and Ethnic Diversity  
Hermann-Föge-Weg 11  
37073 Göttingen  
[www.mmg.mpg.de](http://www.mmg.mpg.de)

Contact:

Antje Menster

Tel: +49 (551) 4956-192

[menster@mmg.mpg.de](mailto:menster@mmg.mpg.de)

# Program

## Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

09.45 – 10.00 Registration

10.00 – 10.30 Opening

**10.30 – 11.30 Keynote by Prof. Edward Lowe: “The Why and Whither for Psychological Anthropology in its Second Century”**

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee break

### 11.45 – 13.15 Studying Psychological Interventions in Different Fields of Practice

- TIRTHANKAR CHAKRABORTY: “Using Interventions to understand and address sexual harassment and assault – Notes from Heidelberg” (ONLINE)
- KATHRIN BAUER: “Why listen to anthropologists? Potential contributions to the academic debates on ADHD”
- JULIA VORHÖLTER: “Intricate Interventions: Dealing with Insomnia in a German Sleep Lab”

13.15 – 14.00 Lunch

### 14.00 – 16.00 Psychological Anthropology Interventions into Current Academic Debates

- THOMAS STODULKA: “Learning Interventions and Travelling Concepts of Self-formation in Southeast Asia”
- JINGYI LI: “Belonging in Migration: Korean Chinese as International Laborers” (ONLINE)
- SWETLANA TORNØ: “Poetry, Music, and Ritual in the Study of Ageing and (Im)Mobility”
- VICTORIA SAKTI: “A Psychological Anthropology Approach to Ageing and the Senescence

16.00 – 16.15 Coffee Break

16.15 – 16.45 Wrap-Up Discussion

19.00 – Workshop Dinner (in town)

## Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

### 09.30 – 10.30 Psychological Anthropology Interventions into Current Academic Debates (continued)

- FLORIN CRISTEA: “Afflicted minds – ‘Madness’, morality, and emotions in rural Bali”
- LEBERECHT FUNK: “Feeding and the Formation of Human Bonds in Childhood”

10.30 – 10.45 Coffee Break

### 10.45 – 11.45 Interventions, Innovations & Intervisions within Psychological Anthropology

- IRINA SAVU CRISTEA: “Writing emotion work and endurance as power. Challenges from fieldwork among young women in Northern Bali”
- ROXANNE ABEL GINTZ: “When fieldwork threatens you: from ethnotopia to patriarchal agency within a remote alternative community, Brazil”

11.45 – 12.45 Wrap-Up Discussion

[official end of workshop and departure]

Lunch in town (for everyone who is still around; costs unfortunately cannot be covered)



Contact:  
Antje Menster  
Tel: +49 (551) 4956-192  
menster@mmg.mpg.de