



*Towards a history of psychiatric epidemiology*  
**FIRST OF A SERIES OF INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS**  
*The making of psychiatric epidemiology: history and epistemology of  
an international discipline*

Université Paris Descartes  
Foyer des professeurs, Faculté de Médecine (3<sup>d</sup> and et 4<sup>th</sup> of June)  
12, rue de l'École de médecine  
Salle Leduc, 45 rue des Saints-Pères (5<sup>th</sup> of June)  
75006, Paris, France

**June 3-5, 2010**

Funded by the ANR program "Philosophy, History and Sociology of Mental Medicine" (PHS2M), through the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IHPST) at the University of Paris I - Sorbonne and through the CeRMes 3 – CESAMES Research Team (Center for Psychotropics and Mental Health Research) at the University of Paris Descartes /INSERM/CNRS/Ecole des Hautes Etudes

Funded by the ANR program and by DREES/MiRe



The first of three annual international meetings, this workshop brings together a core group of scholars interested in exploring the history and epistemology of psychiatric epidemiology. This is a relatively young discipline that both shapes and is influenced by psychiatric science, areas of public health and health services research, mental health campaigns, as well as other areas of epidemiology. Despite the occasional historical narrative written by psychiatric epidemiologists themselves, the discipline's history, objects of study and methods of inquiry have yet to be examined in a systematic or critical manner.

Numerous conductor threads run through this project. A philosophical point of view might seek to understand the moment when the concept of "the mental" becomes a problem for epidemiology. How are evolving ideas of the "mental", "disorder", "illness" or "mental health" reflected in the discipline? Sociologists may seek to understand the social uses of psychiatric epidemiology in different moments and places. A historical approach might shed light on the relationship between 19th century hospital statistics, for example, and urbanisation, race, social class, governance of dependent populations, eugenics, poverty and other social questions. Cross-national comparisons might look at the different, often contested, directions in which the discipline is moving, such as towards translational epidemiology for neurosciences and genomics or a "globalized" American epidemiology mobilized for the task of estimating the global burden of mental disorders or mental health and social disparities.

The June 2010 workshop seeks dialogue and debate between historians, anthropologists, sociologists, social studies of science scholars, psychiatrists and epidemiologists that help us understand how best we might undertake such a history and analysis. The first day will focus on the historical relationship between psychiatrists and epidemiology in France and in the United States, as well as the history of the discipline as psychiatric epidemiologists themselves have portrayed it. The second day will examine theoretical and methodological perspectives necessary to constructing the discipline, such as statistical tools, psychometrics, nosology, research designs and models, as well as the boundary demarcations between disciplines. The final morning will be devoted to a synthesis of the papers, comments and discussions, and lay the groundwork for the 2011 workshop.

The primary language of the workshop is English, but French translations will be made when possible.

The 2011 workshop will be expanded to other national experiences, to examining the relationship of psychiatric epidemiology to other types of epidemiology, to recent risk factor thinking and to eco-epidemiology. The final year's workshop will examine parallel processes in psychiatric epidemiology in colonial, post-colonial and globalization contexts.

The workshop is free and open to all interested. Free inscription at [demazeux@gmail.com](mailto:demazeux@gmail.com).

**Scientific Committee :** *Anne Lovell* (INSERM/CeRMes3-CESAMES), *Gerald Oppenheimer* (CUNY et Mailman School for Public Health, Columbia University), *Dana March* (National Institute on Mental Health et Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University)

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**THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2010**

Foyer des professeurs, Faculté de Médecine, Université Paris Descartes  
12 rue de l'Ecole de médecine, 75006 Paris  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Morning**

**9.00-9.30** : Coffee and croissants

**9.30-9.45** : Welcoming remarks by **Pierre-Henri Castel**, Philosopher, CNRS/CeRMeS3 – CESAMES and Director of the PHS2M ANR Program

Session Chair: *Pierre-Henri Castel*

Respondents : **George Weisz**, Historian and Professor, Social Studies of Medicine, McGill University, Canada and **Luc Berlivet**, Sociologist, Sociologist, CNRS/CeRMeS3 and Ecole de Rome, Italy

**9.45-10.30** : “Histories of psychiatric epidemiology: from internal to external narratives”, **Anne M. Lovell**, Anthropologist, INSERM/ CeRMeS3- CESAMES

**10.30-11.00** : Discussion by **George Weisz** and **Luc Berlivet**

**11.00-11.15**: Questions and Responses

**11.15-11.30**: Coffee Break

**11.30-12.15** : “The Checkered History of American Psychiatric Epidemiology”, **Allan V. Horwitz**, Professor of Sociology, Rutgers University, U.S.A and **Gerald M. Grob**, Henry E. Sigerist Professor of the History of Medicine Emeritus, Rutgers University, U.S.A

**12.15-12.45**: Discussion by **George Weisz** and **Luc Berlivet**

**12.45-1.00** : Questions and Responses

**1.00-2.30** : Lunch Break

**Afternoon**

Session Chair: **Isabelle Baszanger**, Sociologist, CNRS/CeRMeS3-CESAMES

**2.30-3.15**: “Mistrust in numbers: the difficult development of French psychiatric epidemiology in the post-war period”, **Nicolas Henckes**, sociologist, post-doctoral fellow, CeRMeS3-CESAMES

**3.15-3.45** : Discussion by **George Weisz** and **Luc Berlivet**

**3.45-4.00** : Questions and Responses

**4.00-4.15** : Coffee Break

**4.15-5.00** : Roundtable with speakers and discussants

## FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2010

Foyer des professeurs, Faculté de Médecine, Université Paris Descartes  
12 rue de l'École de médecine, 75006 Paris  
9 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

### Morning

**9.00-9.30** : Coffee and croissants

Session Chair: **Alain Ehrenberg**, Sociologist, CNRS/CeRMeS3-CESAMES

Respondent: **Anne Hardy**, Professor, History of Modern Medicine, the Wellcome Trust Center for History of Medicine, University College of London, U.K.

**9.30-10.15**: “The Spirit of St. Louis: Addiction Research and Psychiatric Epidemiology”, **Nancy Campbell**, Professor, Department of Science and Technology Studies Rennsallaer Polytechnic University, U.S.A.

**10.15-10.30**: Discussion by **Anne Hardy**

**10.30-10.45**: Questions and Responses

**10.45-11.00**: Coffee Break

**11.00-11.45** : “Defining Disorder and Ordering Definitions: Psychiatric Epidemiology and Nosologies in the United States”, **Gerald Oppenheimer**, Broeklundian Professor of Public Health, CUNY and Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health and **Dana March**, Department of Epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health and N.I.M.H., U.S.A

**11.45-12.00**: Discussion by **Anne Hardy**

**12.00-12.15** : Questions and Responses

**12h15-14h00** : Lunch Break

### Afternoon

Session Chair : **Vololona Rabeharisoa**, Sociologist, Centre de Sociologie des Innovations, École des Mines.

Respondents : **Anne Hardy**, Professor, History of Modern Medicine, the Wellcome Trust Center for History of Medicine, University College of London, U.K. and **Simon Wessely**, Professor of Epidemiological and Liaison Psychiatry, King's College of London, U.K.

**2.00-2.45** : “PTSD and the Problem of Heterogeneity”, **Allan Young**, Professor, Departments of Anthropology and of Social Studies of Medicine, McGill University, Canada and **Naomi Breslau**, Professor of Epidemiology, Michigan State University, U.S.A

**2.45-3.15** : Discussion by **Anne Hardy** et **Simon Wessely**

**3.15-3.30** : Questions and Responses

**3.30-3.45** : Coffee Break

**3.45-4.30** : Roundtable, introduced and presided by **Simon Wessely**, with all the speakers and discussants

**SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2010**

Salle Leduc, 45 rue des Saints-Pères

**Morning**

**9.00-9.30** : Coffee and croissants

Session Chair: **Tim Thornton**, Director of Philosophy and Professor of Philosophy and Mental Health International School for Communities, Rights and Inclusion University of Central Lancashire, U.K.

**9.30-10.45** : Synthesis of workshop, led by **Tim Thornton** :

\* **Élodie Giroux**, Philosopher of Science, University of Lyon 3

\* **Jean-Paul Gaudillière**, Historian of medicine (INSERM) and Co-Director, CeRMeS3

\* **Ilana Lowy**, Historian, Historian of medicine, INSERM/CeRMeS3

\* **Steeves Demazeux**, PhD Candidate in Philosophy, IHPST, Paris 1

**10.45-11.30** : “Future workshops: questions and themes”, discussion led by **Anne Lovell**, **Gerald Oppenheimer** and **Dana March**

**11.30-12.00** Closing remarks: **Jean-Paul Gaudillière** and **Pierre-Henri Castel**