**11th International Critical Management Studies Conference**

“Precarious Presents, Open Futures”

**Stream:** An uncertain future for health and social care?

Convenors:

*Professor Sanna Laulainen – University of Eastern Finland, Department of Health and Social Management, Finland (sanna.laulainen@uef.fi)*

*Dr Will Thomas – University of Suffolk, Business School, UK*

*PhD Student Tamara Mulherin – University of Edinburgh, School of Social and Political Science, UK*

*Dr Anneli Hujala – University of Eastern Finland, Department of Health and Social Management, Finland*

In line with the main theme of the CMS conference we ask: What does it mean for health and social care management and practices to be ‘open’ in the 21st century?

The aim of this stream is to facilitate conversations in which the precarious presents and open futures in the field of health and social care are examined and discussed. We seek to uncover the causes, symptoms and implications of ways in which the uncertainties of this sector are constructed and exacerbated. Our ambition is to facilitate a dialogue between those who share interests in applying ideas from critical management studies to the field of health and social care in order to uncover hidden assumptions and unacknowledged challenges.

At a time during which systems in many countries are under economic, social and political pressures to deliver more care with fewer resources we expect to attract papers which:

* examine the nature and implications of reform agendas of health and social care systems;
* call into question the conventional hierarchical and authoritative nature of healthcare management;
* re-think the taken-for-granted professional power and its consequences for openness of collaboration;
* pay attention to marginalized actors, whose identities are threatened due to precarious (e.g. people with multi-morbidity or those complex social problems);
* look at the growth of precarious work and uncover the uncertain future for care-workers (a precarious economy);
* address critically the changing environment, such as digitalization of care and new technologies.

We anticipate attracting papers from researchers working in diverse individual settings and on trans-national (collaborative and comparative) projects, ensuring that conversations benefit from a plurality of experiences and insights.

Contributions will be invited and encouraged from scholars across a range of disciplines and from those who bring academic and/or practical experience to the discussions. We seek to welcome papers with empirical, theoretical or methodological bases that are able to provide useful and stimulating insight into our discussion on the nature of work and organization in health and social care or how we might better hope to understand the mechanisms and structures influencing the health and social care field.

This is the fourth time we will organize a critical health and social care stream at the International CMS conference. They have previously attracted a wide range of papers to streams focussing on critical issues in health and social care. The book from the convenors (with Prof. Robert McMurray) *The Management of Wicked Problems in Health and Social Care* was published in October 2018. <https://www.crcpress.com/The-Challenge-of-Wicked-Problems-in-Health-and-Social-Care/Thomas-Hujala-Laulainen-McMurray/p/book/9781138103627>

 *Please submit a 500 word abstract (excluding references, one page, Word document NOT PDF, single spaced, no header, footers or track changes) together with your contact information* ***by email*** *to* *sanna.laulainen@uef.fi****The deadline for submission of abstracts is January 31st 2019****, and we will notify you of our decision by the end of February*

**Based on our previous CMS streams we dare to promise an open and insightful arena for critical discussions on state-of-the-art and future of health and social care.**