

Title/theme of track/session:

'Bodily diversities and mobilities injustices; materialities, embodiment, and affect.'

Name, institution and e-mail address of the organizer/proposer:

Sharon Wilson (Newcastle Business School, Northumbria University, UK) and Martin Trandberg Jensen (Aalborg University, Denmark)

Session description

This session will explore how people with diverse bodily capacities (e.g. physical disabilities or impairments; neurodiversities and other bodily conditions), understand and make sense of travel and everyday mobility as physical and sensory experiences. We invite scholars from various disciplines to discuss the concept of "mobility justice", staging the potential of the 'The City as a Moral Universe' (Tuan, 1988), in the context of bodily (dis)abilities and the affective landscapes, as well as individual/collective coping skills that such conditions elicit. By considering the imperative for further research on bodily impairments and neurodiversity in mobilities and tourism studies, the session will focus on critical questions such as: How are disabilities and neurodiversities experienced in the context of travel and mobility? How may cities, transport infrastructures, services and destinations cater towards the need of impaired and in other ways bodily challenged users? How may we as (dis)abled researchers do research that matters on such subjects? How can we use phenomenological thinking to gain a better understanding of these spaces from the perspective of neurodiverse and bodily impaired travelers? To this, the session goal is to create a platform for discussions on sensory and embodied experiences and conjuring innovative methods to analyse how to design-out 'hostile' physio-sensory environments and to think about how diversity-focused transport mobilities can positively impact social inclusion, destigmatization, and empowerment of people who might experience travel in other more complex ways.

Tracks could include:

- Neurodiversity and mobilities studies.
- Frictions and flows of disabilities and mobility in everyday life.
- Designing for diversity in the Urban travelscape
- Deafness/hearing impairments and mobile experiences
- Theorising the neurodiversity mobility experience from a phenomenological perspective.
- New technologies for researching neurodiversity and tourism
- Challenging neuro-typical design codes in the cityscape
- Neurodiversity as a Challenge to Planning
- Embodiment and materiality
- Ontological, epistemological and methodical dimensions of studies on bodily diversities
- Ethics and positionality in disability studies in tourism and mobilities research

Names of presenters (incl. institutional affiliation) and (preliminary) titles of presentations: Sharon Wilson and Martin Trandberg Jensen