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4:00 pm Thursday 14 September 2006

Multiple Streams, Multiple Networks

Evelyne de Leeuw

Understanding policy: Empirical refinement of the Multiple Streams theory

Recognizing recent advances in policy network theory, Evelyne in this presentation sets out to identify policy networks around events and the position in those networks of the policy entrepreneur. Following the Multiple Streams logic, it was found that mapping only one comprehensive policy network did not yield results of any significance in explaining or predicting policy development. Rather, each stream (policies-politics-problems) contained the same set of actors in different network constellations. In terms of policy entrepreneurship, this insight indicated that some network streams were more easily manipulated than others. This, in turn, led the research team to hypothesise that entrepreneurial intervention in one stream would result in changes in network composition (and event occurrence) in the other streams, thus enabling the opening of 'windows of opportunity'. In order to test this hypothesis we need to develop a research tool that enables dynamic multiple network visualisation. This seminar will present the initial steps to establish that tool and its theoretical and empirical promise.

Evelyne de Leeuw is Chair and Head of School of Health and Social Development in the Faculty of Health, Medicine, Nursing and Behavioural Sciences (FHMNBS). She has a background in policy research and public health. Before she came to these shores she lived in Denmark, where she established the 'most innovative School of Public Health in the Nordic area' at the University of Southern Denmark. Between 1992 and 1998 Evelyne was Secretary-General of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region, ASPHER. In this role she helped set quality standards for public health teaching and research, and helped establish Schools of Public Health in places such as Kazakhstan, El Salvador, and Azerbaijan. Her PhD, in 1989, was on the feasibility of the development and implementation of a national policy for health in the Netherlands.

There is no entry charge and everyone is welcome.

Drinks and nibbles will be provided.

**The Arts Meeting Room, Building C, Room C2.05, Burwood Campus,
Deakin University**

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