

TEMPORALITIES OF CARE IN CONSERVATION ENVIRONMENTS: DISRUPTIVE STORYTELLING AND THE PRESENTATION OF AN EXPERIMENTAL ZINE

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Abstract:

The term “Anthropocene” has scandalised humanity’s role in the destruction of planet earth and mobilised discourse and action in the face of climate catastrophe and biodiversity loss. Yet, scholars have recently problematised the sense of urgency invoked by the Anthropocene (Lynch & Veland, 2018), arguing that the proliferation of apocalyptic tales of coming ‘crises’ have helped to stabilize existing conditions rather than hinder them (Masco, 2017). What (slow) temporalities of care are necessary in order to enable less harmful multispecies entanglements?

This event is centred around the presentation of a zine produced during a workshop at the Centre of Science Studies at Lancaster University in January 2022. The zine brings together innovative collaborative methods that explore what modes and temporalities of care are at work in these multiple and patchy Anthropocene environments (e.g. farms, botanic gardens, forests). By drawing on feminist STS engagements with the concepts of ‘matters of care’ (Puig de la Bellacasa, 2017), ‘soil care’ (Krzywoszynska, 2019), ‘care in practice’ (Mol et al., 2010), and ‘critical care’ (Murphy, 2015) we wish to create a space for playfulness, kinship and disruption that speculatively engages with possible multispecies futures. The collaborators of the zine will tell disruptive stories about their research, paying care-ful attention to multiple temporalities and daring to imagine future worlds of multispecies flourishing. Towards the end of the event there will be a Q&A session.

Special format requirements:

This is a proposal for an experimental storytelling and zine presentation event. This would ideally be a hybrid event with the organisers being in person (but this can be flexible). The zine will be shared with all participants, either by paperback or digitally. No other materials are required.

Key words:

Multispecies, care, environment