

„Meaning Full Disease“

Englisch-sprachiger Workshop mit Prof. Brian Broom, University Auckland, Neuseeland

Ort: Univ.-Klinik für Med. Psychologie, Schöpfstrasse 23a,
II. Stock, Bibliothek, A-6020 Innsbruck

Zeit: 28. September 2009, 12.00 – 18.00 Uhr

Teilnahmegebühr 20€, um Voranmeldung bei Frau Karoline Hofer wird gebeten, Tel.: 0512-504-27708, karoline.hofer@i-med.ac.at



The workshop will introduce participants to realities that have been largely ignored in biomedicine—that physical (both ‘organic’ and ‘functional’) illnesses of many kinds emerge not just in times of ‘stress’ but in the context of very specific patient life ‘stories’ and personal meanings. Participants will be encouraged to see that addressing the ‘story’ of the patient is frequently a powerful way of settling a physical illness, and that with some shifts in their own thinking and clinical actions, a ‘mindbody’ approach can become part of their own work.

The workshop will constantly emphasise actual case material so that the clinical and the theoretical are mutually informative. ***For this purpose, participants are encouraged to prepare and present clinical cases for discussion.*** The workshop will highlight fascinating and common symbolic disorders (somatic metaphors), which demand new non-dualistic ways of understanding ‘persons’ and ‘persons-in-relation.’ It will detail the assumptions and the practical skills clinicians need, to be able to apply an integrated ‘mindbody’ approach into ordinary clinical disciplinary practice.

Person:

Professor Brian Broom is a ‘philosopher physician,’ with a passion for ‘whole person’ approaches to health, un-wellness, and disease. He developed and leads the innovative Post-Graduate MindBody Healthcare Diploma and Masters program at AUT University, Auckland. On the ‘body’ side of his clinical work he is a Consultant Physician in Clinical Immunology (working in the Department of Immunology at Auckland City Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand), but is consulted for many types of physical illness by people wanting a clinician who will look at both physical and non-physical factors that may be playing a part in the onset and continuation of their illnesses. On the ‘mind’ side he is a New Zealand-registered psychotherapist and has long experience training and supervising psychotherapists working with patients with a wide range of physical conditions. His psychotherapy style is eclectic and strongly interpersonal. He has a private practice in Clinical Immunology and MindBody Medicine.

He has written two provocative books for clinicians demonstrating how the emergence and progression of illness and disease relate very closely to the person’s personal life story:

B C Broom (1997) *Somatic Illness and the Patient’s Other Story. A practical integrative approach to disease for doctors and psychotherapists.* Free Association Books, New York/London

B C Broom (2007) *Meaning-full Disease: How personal experience and meanings initiate and maintain physical illness.* Karnac Books, London.

His current interests lie, firstly, in developing new models for understanding how meanings and personal experience and illness are inevitably entwined, and the importance of taking an illness meanings approach to many disease conditions, especially those that are chronic. Secondly, he has a strong interest in helping healthcare professionals become ‘mindbody’ clinicians in whatever discipline they practice.