Exploring narrative approaches to research and re-presentation in the late postmodern era

Speaker biographies

Professor Gayle Letherby, Plymouth University


Professor Dan Goodley, University of Sheffield

Dan Goodley is Professor of Disability Studies and Education at the University of Sheffield. His research and teaching aim to theorise and challenge the conditions of disablism and his recent work has contributed to developments in critical disability studies. He is a Dad to two girls, a keen Nottingham Forest Football Club fan and a Beatles obsessive.

Publications include Self-advocacy in the lives of people with learning difficulties (Open University Press, 2000), Disability Studies: An interdisciplinary introduction (Sage, 2011) and Disability and Social Theory (2012) edited with Bill Hughes and Lennard Davis.
Professor Andrew Sparkes, Leeds Metropolitan University

Andrew C. Sparkes PhD is currently Professor of Sport, Physical Activity and Leisure in the Carnegie Faculty at Leeds Metropolitan University. His research interests are grounded in methodological diversity and inspired by a continuing fascination with the ways that people experience different forms of embodiment over time in a variety of contexts. Recent work has focused on interrupted body projects (e.g., catastrophic spinal cord injury) and the narrative reconstruction of self; ageing bodies in sport and physical activity contexts; sporting auto/biographies and body-self-culture relationships; and sensual ways of knowing and being in sport, physical activity and leisure. These interests are framed by a desire to develop interpretative forms of understanding via the use of life history, ethnography, auto ethnography, and narrative approaches. Andrew has published extensively on these topics in international peer reviewed journals and contributed numerous chapters to leading texts in the field. He is co-author of Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise & Health: From Process to Product (2014. London: Routledge), and is a co-editor of Advances in Biographical Methods: Creative Applications (London: Routledge) which is due out later this year. Andrew is editor of the British Sociological Association Auto/Biography Yearbook and serves on the advisory/editorial boards of 10 international journals.