



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Archive-A-Live!

Exploring responses to the Tavistock Institute's Archive

A Tavistock Institute Annual Symposium

10.00 – 5.00 Thursday, 7th November 2019

St Luke's Community Centre, London EC1V 8AJ

Archives come alive in the moments when people engage with them as part of their own emerging research and practice. In 2017, the archive of the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations (TIHR) was launched at the Wellcome Library, London and was the centrepiece of TIHR's 70th anniversary celebrations *Reimagining Human Relations in Our Time* making TIHR's 70+ years' heritage available to scholarly, practitioner and public users alike, for the first time.

Since its launch, the TIHR archive has been frequently consulted by Wellcome Library users, so much so, that we would like to invite people working with the archive to a one-day Symposium in central London as a place for dialogue and discussion through sharing and exchanging new insights and exploring overlaps and synergies.

As a client-focussed research and consultancy organisation, the Institute's research is problem rather than discipline-centred and its relevance to a range of scholarly fields may not always be immediately picked up on. Moreover, much of the Institute's work is unpublished and does not reach all the relevant research audiences. As such, the opening of the TIHR archive at Wellcome represents the release of a potentially rich, but as yet untapped, resource.

We hope the Symposium will stimulate awareness of and reflection upon the ways in which problem-centred research conducted 'in situ' (in and with organisational clients) can inform and energise areas of scholarly discipline and/or other fields of practice and vice versa. It will be an opportunity to widen your cross-sectoral reach and influence through our professional practitioner networks and there is also the possibility of a publication coming out of the Symposium later on.

Key TIHR projects in wartime leadership and the post-war expansion of industrialisation and public sector services attended always to the dynamics between people and systems, in what became known as the 'socio-psychological; socio-technical; and socio-ecological perspectives', all approaches which are particularly relevant today.

TIHR have a heritage of participatory research and professional development work. It is in this spirit that we wish to hear from you about where the TIHR archive may have brought value to your work.

- Which parts of the archive have stimulated new perspectives, breakthroughs and/or practice?
- How has it influenced or inspired you?
- What can we learn from one another?

With this in mind, we are inviting proposals for sessions at the Symposium. Please send your abstract of 300-500 words to Becki Skittrall, b.skittrall@tavinstitute.org, by 2 August 2019 for consideration, and include:

- Title
- Name of presenter/s and role and/or institutional affiliation
- Contact email address
- Up to 500 word summary of what you will cover and how you will do it
- Any technical or other requirements (space, film, sound, etc.)

The symposium takes place from 10.00 – 5.00 on Thursday, 7th November 2019 at [St Luke's Community Centre](#) in London EC1V 8AJ.

The full framework for the day will be circulated upon selection with confirmation of papers and other presentations (e.g. visual, film). If you require additional information or have questions about the symposium please email Becki Skittrall.

For further information about the TIHR archive project including examples of the different disciplines already engaging with it (organisational and societal change-makers, artists, performers, poets, consultants, anthropologists, historians of ideas, philosophers, ecologists to name a few) you can read a wide range of blog articles documenting the journey of archiving ourselves organisationally, and researcher and other audiences' responses to the archive [here](#).

For illustrations of past TIHR projects you can read short summaries [here](#) (and if you click on any individual project you will be redirected to the relevant Wellcome catalogue page).

The full TIHR archive can be searched on Wellcome Library's online catalogue, using the reference [SA/TIH](#). The archive is freely available for all researchers to access. More information on joining the Library can be found [here](#). Information on browsing and ordering materials from the archive can be found [here](#). For queries relating to the archive at the Wellcome, please contact collections@wellcome.ac.uk or call +44 (0)20 7611 8722.