MCAST

HEALTHY MINDS WORK

RICHMOND

Malta Chamber of SMEs

BEYOND BOUNDARIES THROUGH APPLIED QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

MCAST 3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS

27 to 29 November 2024

MCAST Resource Centre - Auditorium
Main Campus, Corradino Street, Paola

ABOUT

The MCAST Qualitative Research Conference, organised annually by the Applied Research & Innovation Centre (ARIC), places its focus on qualitative and mixed-methods research, particularly their application in addressing challenges specific to Malta, a small island state. The primary contributors to this year's conference include MCAST academics, students mentored by MCAST academics, and various industry and educational partners associated with MCAST. This year, the ARIC Organising Committee also welcomed proposal submissions from external academics, researchers, and practitioners with an interest in qualitative and mixed-methods research.

The conference seeks novelty in methodology implementation, and the practical application of applied research, especially within industry and society. This 3rd edition, Beyond Boundaries through Qualitative Research, will feature research presentations across five thematic tracks: “cultural contexts and beyond,” “exploring marginality,” “integrating new approaches,” “industry collaboration and innovation,” and “reshaping education.”



Photo taken by Milla Talassalo.

HELMI JÄRVILUOMA

Helmi Järviluoma (born 1960) is a Finnish sound, music, and cultural scholar and writer. She is a Professor Emerita of Cultural Studies at the University of Eastern Finland. As sensory and soundscape ethnographer, Järviluoma has developed the mobile method of sensobiographic walking. Her research and art spans the fields of sensory remembering, qualitative methodology (especially regarding gender), environmental cultural studies, sound art and fiction writing. In 2016, she received an Advanced Grant from the European Research Council ERC, in order to study Sensory Transformations and Transgenerational Environmental Relationships, 1950–2020 SENSOTRA in the three European cities of Ljubljana, Turku and Brighton. Among her 180 publications, Gender and Qualitative Methods (2003/2010) continues to draw attention. She has written and directed altogether six radio features for Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE. The Finnish Union of University Professors selected Helmi Järviluoma as professor of the year 2019 in Finland, and 2018 Finnish Academy of Science and Letters, invited her as a member.

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CHRISTINA SILVER

Christina Silver, PhD, is a researcher and facilitator of qualitative data analysis methods and digital tools, specialising in all the major programmes, including ATLAS.ti, CoLoop, Dedoose, Discovertext, f4analyse, MAXQDA, QDA Miner, Qualrus, NVivo, and Transana.

She is Associate Professor (Teaching) in the Department of Sociology at the University of Surrey, where she is also Director of the **CAQDAS Networking Project** which since 1994 has raised awareness and built capacity in the use of qualitative software amongst the global social research community. She is also Co-Director of the department's Short Courses in Social Research programme.

Christina also undertakes research, training, and consultancy via **QDAS** and is co-author of **Using Software in Qualitative Research: A Step-by-Step Guide** (SAGE 2014), and **Qualitative Analysis Using ATLAS.ti / MAXQDA / NVivo: The Five-Level QDA ®Method** (Routledge2018).

Christina has trained many thousands of researchers and students in qualitative methods/software since 1998.



MILADA ŠŤASTNÁ

Prof. Milada Šťastná is a full professor at the Faculty of AgriSciences at Mendel University in Brno (MENDELU), the Czech Republic. At the same time, she is Chairwoman of the Human Research Ethics Committee dealing with the ethical aspects of research activities involving human participants. Her research interests are in environmental and life sciences; particularly in Environmental Ethics, landscape and AgroEcology. She is the Head of the Department of Applied and Landscape Ecology at MENDELU and the Editor-in-chief of the international scientific journal European Countryside. She serves as an independent observer and ethics expert for the European Commission calls (ERCEA, REA) and others (e.g. EURAMET, EUREKA, COST). She is a leading researcher in international scientific projects, including H2020, and HE, and a member of branch councils and other academic bodies and professional associations. In 2024 she was awarded by the Dean of Faculty for excellent results in international project activities and other activities promoting and representing the institution.



KAHRYN HUGHES

Kahryn Hughes is Professor of Sociology at the University of Leeds. She is a Senior Fellow of the National Centre for Research Methods and internationally recognised for consolidating and advancing methods of Qualitative Secondary Analysis (QSA). She has formulated and led the brand new field of international Qualitative Secondary Analysis (iQSA) with an international team from Denmark. She is first author of 'Men, Families and Poverty' (Palgrave Macmillan) a ground-breaking text based entirely on the Qualitative Secondary Analysis of archived research data, and lead editor of 'Qualitative Secondary Analysis' (SAGE) the first edited book introducing this methodological language. As Director of the **Timescapes Archive** she has been active in developing infrastructures to support qualitative data re-use. She has published critical work on the use of qualitative interviews, methods of qualitative secondary analysis, access methods and casing approaches to data analysis.

She is currently developing research exploring appropriate strategies for researching with transient families in the UK to support local and national policy development and engagement.

Kahryn has an enduring interest in questions concerning time and temporality and is Co-Lead of the Horizons Network for Time.

KEYNOTE SPEECHES & INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

Wednesday 27th November:

Session 1: 09:30 – **10:30** – Keynote Speech and Q&A (Prof. Milada Šťastná) – *Ethical Considerations in Qualitative Research with Human Participation*

Session 2a: **11:00** – **12:00** – Panel Discussion Ethical Considerations in Qualitative Research with Human Participation*Sharing of Good Practices in Qualitative Research*

Session 3: **13:00** – **15:00** – Workshop (Prof. Helmi Järviluoma) – *Gender and Qualitative Research*

Thursday 28th November:

Session 1: 09:00 – **10:30** – Keynote Speech and Interactive Session (Prof. Kahryn Hughes) – *Temporal ethics and the possibilities of qualitative data reuse*

Friday 29th November:

Session 1: 09:00 – **10:00** – Keynote Speech (Prof. Helmi Järviluoma) – *Sensobiographic Walking as a Qualitative Method of Inquiry*

Session 4: 14:30 – **16:30** – Workshop (Dr. Christina Silver) – *Methodologically Appropriate Use of MAXQDA's AI Assist throughout the Qualitative Analytic Workflow*

DOCTORAL DAY

27th November 11:00 onwards

This is a closed event with an expert panel, aimed at active and prospective candidates of the MCAST DRes doctoral programme. It shall include discussions, insights, queries, and the avoiding of pitfalls, for one to successfully navigate the doctoral programme.

Location: MRC Auditorium.



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INFORMATION & CONTACT

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