



*The conference site:
Gullmarstrand*



*The village:
Fiskebäckskil*



*The Sven Lovén Centre:
Centre for marine sciences
at Kristineberg*

Welcome to the LETStudio Spring meeting 2010

Thursday June 3:

- 10.00 Arrival and coffee
- 10.20 Welcoming
- 10.30 Guest lecturer Prof. Michael Lynch:
"Expert at what? Expertise as a relational phenomenon"
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 *Studio 1:* Visual technologies and disciplinary knowledge in transformation
- 14.00 *Studio 2:* Expert-laymen communication and participatory practices in a scientific and technological society
- 15.00 Coffee
- 15.30 *Studio 3:* Literacy, digital media and learning to engage in science activities
- 16.30 Visions and themes for the future: initiating discussions
- 17.00 Visit to The Sven Lovén Centre. Guide: Prof. Michael Thorndyke.
- 20.00 Dinner

Friday June 4:

- 09.00 Collaborative work (including coffee break)
- 11.00 Summing up group discussions
- 11.30 Prof. Sten Ludvigsen: The LETStudio -
comments on ongoing work and plans for the future
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 Departure

Prof. Michael Lynch:

Expert at what? Expertise as a relational phenomenon

In their widely cited theory of expertise, Collins and Evans state: “To treat expertise as real and substantive is to treat it as something other than *relational*.” In contrast, this paper begins with the position that expertise can be real, substantive *and* relational. Part of the paper will examine some familiar uses of the categories “expert” and “expertise” in different contexts. I shall also draw upon studies of the admissibility and interrogation of expert witnesses in legal tribunals. Some points to be made in this connection are, first, that *expert* is a valued social category – it is not just a descriptive term – and like other valued membership categories it is subject to demonstration, social controls, and tests that vary considerably from one activity to another. Second, to be an expert is to be an expert at *something*. Just *what* counts as expertise varies with the circumstances, can be subject to dispute, and can be construed narrowly or broadly. Third, expertise requires social recognition. In some circumstances, recognition is informal while in others formal tests and credentials are involved. In public disputes in which experts take part, and sometimes have a leading role, “what counts as expertise” is often a key question, as is “which experts, or domains of expertise, count” for the matter at hand. Declaring that expertise is “real” settles preemptively what should remain open to case-by-case investigation of the circumstances and contingencies in which expertise is embedded.

Participants:

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Ingerman, Åke
Ivarsson, Jonas
Johansson, Elin
Kasperowski, Dick
Kjellgren, Karin
Lantz-Andersson, Annika
Lindwall, Oskar
Ludvigsen, Sten
Lymer, Gustav
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