

Institut d'été de la CHCI Health and Medical Humanities Network

écrit par Clémence Mesnier

Columbia Global Centers | Paris

June 14-15, 2019

"Health Beyond Borders"

<https://medicalhumanities.mla.hcommons.org/2018/11/08/cfp-chci-medical-and-health-humanities-network-summer-institute/>

The CHCI Health and Medical Humanities Network is a partnership of over 30 universities worldwide working in the medical and health humanities. In 2019, the annual Summer Institute of the CHCI HMHN will be hosted by Columbia Global Centers | Paris, with the theme, "Health Beyond Borders."

Human health is shaped by borders—from the protected space of the hospital to the international boundaries that govern the health of populations. But even as borders offer a way of delineating health and disease in physical space, the border itself is often understood as a boundary to be transcended or a frontier to be crossed. The notion of moving beyond borders helps to make sense of broader trends in global health, from debates about migration, contested sovereignty, and environmental accords to the boundary-crossing work of clinicians such as the Médecins sans frontières. Within the medical and health humanities, the border provides a rich zone for investigation into how well-being is constituted across a continuum of individuals and populations. Importantly, at the heart of the concept of the border is the issue of representation : borders are necessarily shaped as much by human expression as they are by physical markers. This conference explores the interdisciplinary facets of the border, from the metaphorical to the political: What counts as a border in an embodied, geographical, legal, or artistic context? What are the debates around borders in medical practice, from hospitalist medicine to epidemiology? How and why do health practitioners refer to the border for its rhetorical power, and how does the border work productively as a figure in narrative medicine, medical memoirs, and

creative

literature? What are the processes and structures that define well-being across borders, from

nationalist immigration policies to environmental protections? How do we understand efforts to

confront, dismantle, or transcend borders in healthcare? What role do borders play in the formation

of state-sanctioned health policies, and how might these enable or obstruct initiatives in global

health? And how might the concept of the boundary reshape our visions of a future health beyond

borders?