

Lecture by Fredrik Svenaeus

"The phenomenology of suffering in medicine"

Date: 15:00-17:00, Monday, November 28, 2016

Place: Bld. 18, 4F, Collaboration Room 2,
The University of Tokyo, Komaba

Lecturer: Fredrik Svenaeus (Sodertorn University)

Abstract:

I will present and defend a phenomenological understanding of suffering according to which suffering is a potentially alienating mood overcoming a person and engaging her in a struggle to remain at home in face of the loss of meaning and purpose in life. Such moods involve painful experiences at different levels that are connected through the suffering-mood but are nevertheless distinguishable by being primarily about 1) my embodiment, 2) my engagements in the world together with others, and 3) my core life values. It is essential for health care practitioners to discern these different layers of suffering and how they are connected through the suffering-moods if they are to be able to help persons who suffer.