

# Conference on Literacy, Empathy and Social Sustainability 2017

---

**Thursday, September 7, 2017, Baertling Room, Halmstad University**

- 8:30 Registration and coffee
- 10:00-10:15 Welcome **Catarina Dahlöf**, Region Director, and **Ingela Skärsäter**  
Program Director for Health and Innovation, Halmstad University
- 10:15-11:30 KEYNOTE «Does Fiction Really Tell Us Something about Our Working  
Lives?» **Matthijs Bal**, University of Lincoln
- 11:30-12:30 «Deep into the depths: Where do Stories become Meaningful?»  
**Frank Hakemulder**, Utrecht University
- «Empathy in Transformative Reading: An Empirical Model» **Olivia Fialho**, Utrecht University
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch (buffet for all the speakers)
- 14:00-14:45 KEYNOTE «Empathy and Literary Reading in the Digital Age» **Anne  
Mangen**, The Reading Centre, University of Stavanger
- 14:45-16:15 «Fiction and Professional Development among University Faculty»  
**Maria Wennerström & Johan Wickström**, Uppsala University
- «Professional Development and Reflections on Reading Fiction as a  
means of Understanding the Experience of Empathy» **Anna  
Fåhraeus**, Halmstad University
- «Fiction as a Didactic Tool in Medical Education» **Katarina Eriksson  
Barajas & Anja Rydén Gramner**, Linköping University
- 16:15-16:30 Concluding remarks

## Friday, September 8, 2017, Baertling Room, Halmstad University

- 10:00-10:45 KEYNOTE «The Potential of Transnational Youths' Multiliteracies for Literacy Education and Social Justice in a Globalized World. »  
**Allison Skerrett**, University of Texas at Austin
- 10:45-12:15 «Building community through conflict? Exploring the role of discord in a reading group» **David Peplow**, Sheffield Hallam University
- «Schools and the Library Reading Circle» **Jonas Asklund**, Halmstad University
- «Empathetic Ears: The Audiobook, Aesthetics and Affect» **Cecilia Björkén-Nyberg**, Halmstad University
- 12:15-13:45 Lunch (buffet for all the speakers)
- 13:45-15:15 «Bibliotherapy and health» **Cecilia Pettersson**, Gothenburg University
- «Reading as Passion and Social Practice» **Lotta Bergman**, Malmö University
- «Losing Oneself in Words – Finding Ourselves in Sound: The Halmstad Poetry Lab» **Elisabeth Skog & Cecilia Björkén-Nyberg**, Halmstad University
- 15:15-16:00 Concluding round table discussion