



## Public Lecture

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**Thursday, 28 March 2019**

**Academic Mobility and Transnational Knowledge Brokerage  
Through a Lens of Intersecting Social Inequalities**

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**Prof. Kyoko Shinozaki, Department of Sociology,  
University of Salzburg**

**Discussant: Prof. Philip Balsiger, University of Neuchâtel**

18:15 – 19:45 h

Location: University of Neuchâtel, Avenue du 1er-Mars 26, Room B32

## **Abstract**

There are hardly any higher education institutions (HEIs) in Europe and Asia that have not adopted some kind of internationalization strategies. Internationalization involves a wide range of mobility of scientists, students, and administrators, as well as of education, research, and other related services. It is often understood as something to be celebrated and accomplished, increasingly connected with “excellence”. I will address two main aspects of international mobility of academics and graduate students.

My first aim is to evaluate the lack of meso-organizational approaches in the study of academic and student mobilities. While the existing research has primarily examined the motivations and drivers of mobile students — and to a lesser extent those of academics —, less emphasis has been placed so far on the role of organizations, the very places where human lives generally begin and end. The organizational actors in question here are particular units of HEIs, such as the International Office, and higher education (HE)-related organization, including student recruitment agencies and funding agencies. It can be argued that these organizations shape the mobility of academic and knowledge. They can be seen as “brokers” in Simmel’s sense (1908), connecting academics and employers / graduate school transnationally, which have otherwise been unconnected.

Secondly, I examine some of the ways in which social inequalities such as gender, citizenship, and racialization are being produced and reconstituted in their intersection with the process of transnational brokerage. Social inequalities have been one of the key concepts in migration studies, in particular, one that examines migration into “less-skilled” sectors, dating from classic works up to the present. By contrast, the issue of social inequalities is just about to enter the discussion in highly skilled migration / mobility scholarship. It denotes a systematic lack of access among individuals and social groups to both material and immaterial valued resources due to their societal positions. Their living conditions are influenced by this. Meanwhile, however, inequality scholarship has been critiqued by migration scholars like Andreas Wimmer and Nina Glick Schiller (2003) for neglecting the spatial dimension and taking as the only unit of reference nation-state-based society. In what ways can intersecting social inequalities manifest themselves? Are there any contradictory effects of inequalities produced by internationalization of HEIs and transnational brokerage? If so, how can we explain these?

## **Curriculum Vitae**

Kyoko Shinozaki is Professor of Sociology with a focus on “Social Change and Mobilities” at the Paris Lodron University of Salzburg. She studies processes of contemporary international migration of both “less-skilled” and “skilled” flows. She is particularly interested in how these processes re-create and re-constitute inequalities along the intersecting divisions of “race” / ethnicity, class and gender from a transnational perspective. Her longstanding area of research is migrant domestic and care workers and their transnational family life. Her monograph, *Migrant Citizenship from Below: Family, Domestic Work and Social Activism in Irregular Migration* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015) was selected for the session “Author meets Critics” at the 2017 ISA Forum in Vienna. Her more recent interest is in the articulation of intersecting social inequalities in higher education institutions and global knowledge production. She looks at scientists’ transnational mobility and the role higher education and related organizations play in validating cultural capital in Western Europe and East Asia. She is one of the founding members and Speaker of the Section “Gender and Sexuality” of the Council of Migration (Rat für Migration) in Berlin. Currently, she is a Speaker of the Section “Feminist Theory and Gender Studies” of the Austrian Sociological Association. She serves on the boards of the Research Network “International Migration, Integration, Social Cohesion in Europe” (IMISCOE), the Center for Integration Research (Technische Universität Dresden) and of two academic journals, *Gender* and *Austrian Journal of Sociology*.

### Selected Publications

- Shinonazi, Kyoko, Ruri Ito, Rie Miyazaki, Chikako Mori, Chiho Ogaya, and Aya Sadamatsu (forthcoming, 2019). *Yoroppa Ni Okeru Kea No Politikus [Politics of Care in Europe]*. Tokyo: Akashi Shoten.
- Shinonazi, Kyoko and Asuncion Fresnoza-Flot (2017). Special Issue on Transnational Perspectives on Intersecting Experiences: Gender, Social Class and Generation Among Southeast Asian Migrants and Their Families. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 44(6): 867–884.
- Shinonazi, Kyoko (2017). Gender and Citizenship in Academic Career Progression: An Intersectional, Meso-scale Analysis in German Higher Education Institutions, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 43(8): 1325–46.
- Shinonazi, Kyoko (2017). Wie deutsche Hochschule Internationalisierung realisieren: Eine explorative Studie in transnationaler Perspektive, in Alyâ Neusel & André Wolter Hrsg, *Mobile Wissenschaft: Internationale Mobilität und Migration in der Hochschule*, Frankfurt: Campus Verlag, 179–196.
- Shinonazi, Kyoko (2015). *Migrant Citizenship from Below: Family, Domestic Work and Social Activism in Irregular Migration*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.