Welcome to an international Workshop on Gender and Quality

at UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø, Sept 23.-24. 2019

The aim of this workshop is to come together and discuss issues of gender inequality and gendered structures within academia. Important questions will be: how concepts like scientific quality and excellence are interpreted and applied within university settings, and how gendered structures, implicit bias, micro inequality, discrimination, and sexual and gendered harassment affect academia. These are questions relevant to decision-making processes, such as the assessment and evaluation of scientific work, the organization and execution of hiring processes, and the appointment of leaders to big research projects.

The workshop will focus both on gender in academia in general, and on gender imbalance within philosophy in particular. Inga Bostad and Tove Pettersen from UiO will speak about philosophy and gender. Researchers from the philosophy department at UiT will give presentations on parenting, sexual harassment and structural injustice. More speakers will be invited.

Please indicate your interest in our workshop by sending a brief abstract (200-300 words) to Kjersti Fjørtoft (kjersti.fjortoft@uit.no) by June 1.

The Workshop on Gender and Quality is hosted by the UiT Department of Philosophy, and is part of gender equality project Prestige: Gender Balance in Research Leadership at UiT the Arctic University of Norway, financed by UiT and The Research Council of Norway.
Inga Bostad is Professor of philosophy at the Department of Education, University of Oslo, and Adjunct Professor at The Oslo School of Architecture and Design. She holds a Phd in philosophy from UiO. Bostad is the author of a number of books and articles – including the 2017 Å se seg spørrende omkring, introduksjon til en ny pedagogisk filosofi (2017). Her latest publications cover issues of distance, wonder, hermeneutics and human rights, rights concepts and limitations, freedom and differentness. Bostad’s research interests include pedagogical philosophy, skepticism, pedagogical fundamental questions, differentness, eco-philosophy, and homelessness.

Bostad has been Pro-Rector of The University of Oslo and Director of the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights. At present she heads a cross-disciplinary research project on the Nordic model of education. In 2006-2007 she lead the government-appointed Bostad Commission on the statutory objectives of Norwegian education. Bostad is currently vice-president of the board of The European Wergeland Centre, and leader of the jury of Queen Sonja’s School Award for equality and inclusion. Bostad was awarded the Beacon of Dignity Award 2013, Columbia University, New York and Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies.

Tove Pettersen is a professor of philosophy at the Centre for Gender Research, University of Oslo. Her research competence covers feminist philosophy, moral philosophy, and the history of philosophy. She specializes in feminist ethics, particularly in issues concerning the ethics of care and the existential philosophical ethics of Simone de Beauvoir. Pettersen also works with feminist history of philosophy, and explores how to do philosophy at the intersection between situated experience and systematic reflection.