

**‘Joining hands in Medical Humanities: Rethinking health, disease and therapy in the 21st century’**



**Vaitsa Giannouli**

Vaitsa Giannouli is a postdoctoral researcher in Neuroscience, School of Medicine, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece and serves as adjunct lecturer at the European University Cyprus, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Her clinical and research interests focus on the application of neuropsychological methods and advanced neuroimaging techniques for both structural and functional evaluation of the brain-behavior relationship in neurological and psychiatric diseases. Her research interests are in the areas of cognitive psychology, neuropsychology, geropsychology and quantitative/qualitative methods of research. Her dream is to open an interdisciplinary dialogue in order to explore experiences of health and illness in older adults as examined through the lenses of Medical Humanities and Health Humanities.



**Stanislava Stoyanova**

**Professor of Psychology (Psychological Measurements)**  
 South-West University “Neofit Rilski”  
 Lecturer in Psychological Measurements; Experimental Psychology; Psychological measurements at school age; Social Psychology  
**Guest lecturer**  
 Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”  
**Associate Professor of General Psychology**  
 South-West University “Neofit Rilski”  
**Chief Assistant in Psychological Measurements**  
 South-West University “Neofit Rilski”  
**Assistant in Psychological Measurements**  
 South-West University “Neofit Rilski”  
**Visiting Assistant in Psychological Measurements**



**Fintan Sheerin**

Fintan is the Professor of Nursing and Founding Head of the School of Nursing at Maynooth University. He is a registered General and Intellectual Disability nurse, with extensive experience of nursing across a number of fields of practice. Much of his work has focused on the rights and wellbeing of people with intellectual disability within both Irish and global health contexts. He has also sought to address the issues which impact such wellbeing. He has led the mental health component of the IDS-TILDA research project for several years as well as the development of a national group focused on the human rights of persons with intellectual disabilities in Ireland, which brought together many local and national groups and individuals with intellectual disabilities.



**Petra Björne**


Petra Björne, with a MA in philosophy and a PhD in cognitive science, works as a research and development coordinator at the Department for Disability Support in Malmö, Sweden. Her task is to help staff and managers to develop high quality support within a strong rights-based legal framework.

As a researcher she is affiliated with the universities in Lund and Umeå, Sweden. In her research she focuses on expressions of distress, so called challenging behaviours, and organizational drivers of the use of restrictive and coercive measures in response to such behaviours. She is also interested in the more subtle, everyday restrictive practices impacting self-determination, independence and participation.



**Nikolaos Syrmos**

I was born in Thessaloniki, Macedonia, Greece. I attend first the medical school of the University of Verona, Italy for three years and then the medical school of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. After my graduation, first i worked as a doctor in Goumenissa General Hospital Goumenissa, Kilkis, Macedonia Greece ,in the surgical department and after in the obstetric department of Naoussa General Hospital ,Naoussa, Imathia ,Macedonia , in the department of orthopaedics of Giannitsa General Hospital ,Giannitsa, Pella ,Macedonia,Greece .From 2006 to 2008 i was resident of Neurosurgery in Venizeleio General Hospital, Heraklion, Crete, Greece.I continued my residency in AXEPA University Hospital, Thessaloniki, Macedonia ,Greece. . I am a board-certified Neurosurgeon and Paediatric Neurosurgeon I hold a PhD Diploma. The title of my thesis is Endoscopic Anatomy of the fourth Ventricle. I visit many times the paediatric neurosurgical department of the Catholic University of Rome, Policlinico Agostino Gemelli, Rome, Italy and the neurosurgical department of Verona General Hospital, Borgo Trento, Verona,

	<p>Italy where I participate in both clinical and scientific activities. Also, I have completed the post-graduate courses of the European Society of paediatric Neurosurgery and of the European Society of spine surgery. I speak English, Italian and Spanish language. Research Interest I am interested in basic science, anatomy, physiology, craniocerebral injuries, paediatric neurosurgery, vascular neurosurgery history of neurosurgery, endoscopic neurosurgery procedures, neurosurgery and sports, experimental medicine. sports medicine.</p>
 <p><b>Achilleas Kleisouras</b></p>	<p>Achilles has studied physics in Greece, and then history, creative writing and comics in Montreal, Canada. He has worked professionally in graphic design and illustration and over a period of years published a comic strip in one of the largest political newspapers in Athens. He has a master's in creative writing and is currently a PhD candidate in modern Greek literature at the Hellenic Open University where he is studying the literature of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Greece and its' relationship with illustrations, comics and graphic novels. He is particularly interested in the theory of pictorial narrative and the numerous applications and uses of comics and graphic novels in education as well as in various scientific fields, especially health sciences. Currently he is employed at the <i>Applied Philosophy Research Laboratory</i> of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and, among others, is the manager of the Laboratory's press. He is also the production manager &amp; art director of CONATUS, the international journal of philosophy that is published by the Laboratory every six months, both in electronic form and in print.</p>
 <p><b>Andrés de Santiago Aréizaga</b></p>	<p>Andrés listens, observes, dialogues and doodles. His practice traverses the public-private network of museums, cultural institutions and historical archives and their fragmentary relationship with the threefold official history, collective memory and oral tradition.</p> <p>Parallel to exhibiting and conducting research, workshops and lectures internationally, Andrés regularly contributes to magazines, art journals and fanzines.</p> <p>He wonders about the sustainability of general knowledge and gets the impression the arts now are not only still fine but rougher around the edges — for the better.</p>





**Wilma Stringer**

I was born and grew up in Detroit, Michigan in the United States. I graduated from Wayne State University in Detroit with degrees in anthropology and biology. Before retiring, I worked in healthcare, financial services, and the fundraising departments of various organizations. Since retiring I have devoted my time to volunteering, community-based participatory research collaborations, and taking classes in topics that interest me. I particularly enjoy art history. I have found that in addition to “educating my eye,” art history courses have allowed me to improve my critical thinking skills and my writing. I also enjoy cooking and sharing meals with friends.



**William Desmond**

William Desmond is originally from Cork but was educated mainly in the US. He has a BA in classics and philosophy (Loyola, MD), a BSc in mathematics (Open University) and a joint MA and PhD in classics and philosophy (Yale). He was a lecturer at Yale for two years before returning to Ireland where he lectured in UCD, TCD and Milltown, before taking up a permanent post in Maynooth.

This event is brought to by Vaitsa Giannouli, Visiting Fellow 2024-25 to the Arts & Humanities Institute, and the Department of Ancient Classics, at Maynooth University, under the Faculty of Arts & Humanities’ Research Theme ‘Medical Humanities’.

For further information about this event, contact us @ [muahi@mu.ie](mailto:muahi@mu.ie)

Details: Hybrid event on Friday, 28th March 2025 10 am -2 pm

Online and in: Education Lab 1.37, AHI First Floor of IONTAS Building

