***Disability and Global Justice Seminar***

**Time**: 4th September 2015 (10:00-15:30)

**Location**: University of Helsinki, Metsätalo Sali 4 (Unioninkatu 40)

**Programme of the Seminar**

10:00-10:15 Opening words by **Professor Simo Vehmas**

10:15-11:15 **Dr. Tom Shakespeare**: *Can we have development without disadvantage?  - Living*

*conditions of disabled people in developing countries*

11:15-12:15 **Professor Sirkku Hellsten:** *Disability in Africa as a human rights issue –*

*the case of Albinos in Tanzania*

12:15-13:30 Lunch

13:30-14:15 **Professor Matti Häyry**: *Disability as a test of justice in a globalising world*

14:15-14:45 **Nathaly Guzman:** *Realizing self-determination rights of people with disabilities*

*through development practice – a case study on the water and sanitation sector in*

*Tanzania*

14:45-15:15 **Hermann Aubie**: *Enabling the disabled in China, the growing role of grassroots*

*disability rights advocates*

15:15-15:30 Closing words by **Adjunct Professor Hisayo Katsui**

**Description of the seminar**:

The objective of the seminar is to discuss the realization of justice and human rights for people with disabilities in a global context. During the past ten years or so, extending justice to people with disabilities and to all world citizens has caught the interest of scholars working on social justice. Applicability of theories of justice to global issues is important, because we live in a world where national economies are entwined, business corporations operate internationally, cultural differences shrink or assume new forms, local ideologies claim universal recognition, and people are increasingly aware of their responsibility for others. This is the context in which responses to disability can justifiably be seen as a test of adequacy for theories of justice.

**Speakers’ Introduction:**

* **Dr. Tom Shakespeare** is a leading scholar in disability studies. He is the author of numerous books and articles including Disability Rights and Wrongs Revisited (Routledge 2014) and Disability Research Today: International Perspectives (Routledge 2015). He is also an author of the World Report on Disability (2011) that was published by the WHO and the World Bank. The globally influential World Report shed light on inequalities in a global scale and brought attention to the global justice as a central theme of the disability and human rights discourse.
* **Matti Häyry** is Professor of Philosophy of Management at Aalto University School of Business in Helsinki, Finland. During 2004-2013, he was Professor of Bioethics and Philosophy of Law at the University of Manchester in England. He was also the President of the International Association of Bioethics (IAB) during 2007-2009. He is currently studying the nature of bioethics; the ethical issues of synthetic biology; and justice and its alternatives in a globalizing world.
* **Professor Sirkku Hellsten** is based at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Her research interests include human rights, justice, African philosophy and political theory. She is also the editor of Journal of Global Ethics.
* **Simo Vehmas** is Professor of Disability Studies at the University of Helsinki, Finland, and the President of the Nordic Network on Disability Research (NNDR). His training is in both special education and philosophy, and he has written widely on theoretical and ethical issues related to disability.
* **Hisayo Katsui** is Docent in Disability Studies at the University of Helsinki, and Research and Development Manager at the Abilis Foundation.
* **Hermann Aubié** is a PhD candidate at the University of Turku. His research is on grassroots disability rights NGOs and human rights defenders in China.
* **Nathaly Guzman** has finalized her Master’s thesis at Aalto University. Her current research is on water and sanitation and disability in Tanzania.

**The Organizing Institution: University of Helsinki, Disability Studies**

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