



**The O'Brien Institute for Public Health &  
the Department of Community Health Sciences present:**

## **Qualitative research: Commonalities, contrasts and complementarities**

**Speakers: Rebecca Haines-Saah, Anne Hughson, and Melanie Rock  
Bonnie Lashewicz, Facilitator**

**Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - 12:00 to 12:50 p.m.**

**G500 - Health Sciences Centre, 3330 Hospital Dr NW**

This session will showcase a distinguished sample of qualitative research expertise from within the Department of Community Health Sciences. Each of three panel members will provide a ten minute overview of their respective programs of research. This will be followed by a Q&A session during which we will discuss the "status" of qualitative research overall and the particular contributions of the research programs presented including what they share, how they differ and how they complement other work.

**Dr. Rebecca Haines-Saah** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Health and co-lead for the O'Brien Institute for Public Health's, Population Health and Prevention Interest Group. Trained as a Health Sociologist, Rebecca's research focuses on adolescent mental health and substance use through the lens of a critical public health approach that prioritizes harm reduction, social justice, and the lived experiences of persons that use drugs and/or live with mental illness. Since joining the University of Calgary as Faculty in early 2016, much of Rebecca's research focus has been on youth cannabis use and the public health policy implications of cannabis legalization in Canada. Rebecca's current projects also include qualitative and policy-focused research on parent advocacy for drug policy reform in the context of Canada's opioid crisis, and on youth policy engagement for mental health promotion.

Extensive experience with individuals with disabilities and their families frame **Dr. Anne Hughson's** participatory qualitative research about the conditions needed for individuals and families to belong in communities. Anne is an Associate Professor in Community Rehabilitation & Disability Studies Program in the Department of Community Health Sciences and her approach to evaluation and research is at the intersection of determining social programs' policies/practices discourse and understanding user experiences. My desires to interrogate individual, structural and systemic expressions of power, voice and social action are reflected in authorship of books, manuals, chapters, and articles on disability-related subjects and engaging with families in Russia, USA, UK, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Mexico and Argentina. My aim is to teach and mentor students to think critically by applying theories to their reflective practice and ethically engaging in social inquiry and action for social change. Currently, my activist interests and research topics include inclusive postsecondary education, family advocacy development, and system responses to diverse families, including mothers with disabilities.

**Dr. Melanie Rock** is Associate Scientific Director of the O'Brien Institute for Public Health (since January 2016). She is also Associate Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine (primary appointment); the Department of Ecosystem and Public Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (joint appointment); the Faculty of Social Work (adjunct appointment with supervisory privileges); and the Department of Anthropology and Archeology, Faculty of Arts (adjunct appointment with supervisory privileges). Previously, Dr. Rock held a New Investigator Award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Petro-Canada Young Innovator in Community Health Research Prize, and a Population Health Investigator Award from the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (now known as Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions). She is registered with the Alberta College of Social Workers, with a scope of practice emphasizing social research, community services and public policy in relation to One Health.

### **Objectives:**

1. To discuss the current "status" of qualitative research
2. To illustrate the many and varied contributions of qualitative research
3. To examine commonalities, contrasts and complementarities between programs of qualitative research

**This event is a self approved group learning activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. This seminar is also available via an online AdobeConnect session:** To attend the seminar from another location via your computer, click on this link:

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