**Userperspectives as a driving force in practice research in social work**

Kirsten Henriksen

Aalborg University, Denmark

Kirsten Mejlvig

Aalborg University, Denmark

Maja Andersen

Aalborg University, Denmark

Lars Uggerhøj

Aalborg University, Denmark

This workshop will through 5 short presentations set the stage for a participatory part where both a discussion of the strength of the linkage between practice research and user involvement in social work, and a discussion of how user perspectives are possible in both social work and (practice) research will be launched among the participants of the workshop. Practice research has in both the Salisbury and the Helsinki statements primarily been discussed as a collaboration between practitioners and researchers in social work. This workshop will focus on the possibilities of and the barriers in involving the third part: the service users and on how this triangle of collaboration can build a bridge between the stakeholders. As well as the workshop will focus on how it is possible from this basis of understanding to develop and qualify social work and social work research.

* How practice research can strengthen the focus on risk groups having a specific dependency in social work (e.g. children and adolescents), as being both service users and children/adolescents. (Birgitte S. Jensen bsj@cafa.dk)
* How practice research can provide a challenge to traditional categories in social work, and develop new forms of service user driven categorization. For instance how psychiatric diagnoses are (re)constructed as an area of social work intervention. (Maja Lundemark Andersen)
* Reflections concerning the impact of involving service users in an action research process in collaboration between researcher and practitioners focusing on developing social worker assessments. (Kirsten Henriksen)
* How research involving service users and practitioners can help to challenge and expand the useroriented collaboration in social work. (Kirsten Mejlvig)
* How it is possible to utilize user perspectives and common knowledge production as a vital part of practice and practice research in social work. (Lars Uggerhøj)