

Research meeting, 14 November 2018, 14:00, U34:



**Anna Wanka**

Universität Wien & Goethe University  
Frankfurt am Main, Research group  
"Doing Transitions"

**Doing Retiring – The Social  
Practices of Transiting from Work  
to Retirement**

Retirement remains one of the major transitions within the life-course. With the ageing of the 'Baby Boomer' cohort, more and more adults are transiting from working life into retirement. Consequently, a vast body of research has focused on the retirement transition - much of which is concerned with retirement age and extending working lives (e.g. Wetzel et al., 2016, Calvo et al., 2017).

In contrast, approaching retirement from a practice-theoretical perspective (cf. Reckwitz, 2003; Schatzki, 2002) puts emphasis on the processual nature of retiring as a practical accomplishment of re-organizing everyday lives. The retirement transition facilitates a variety of practice changes to different realms of everyday life. Changing practices can be mundane, like taking more time for breakfast, forward- or backward-looking, like planning or taking stock, and affective, like disengagement. Other practices might only emerge at certain times of the retiring process, marking the transition as a distinct life stage in itself, like refurbishing a house or taking a long-distance travel. The transition from work to retirement is of particular interest to the study of the everyday lives, leisure activities and lifestyles of older adults, as questions on the meaning of work and leisure, activity and productivity are re-negotiated.

This talk addresses the questions: How are the everyday lives of older adults re-organized when work vanishes? And which patterns of social inequalities underlie these processes?

For more info please contact research meetings' coordinator Gábor Oláh [olah@fss.muni.cz](mailto:olah@fss.muni.cz) or guest coordinator Lucie Galčanová [galcanov@fss.muni.cz](mailto:galcanov@fss.muni.cz)