These events are designed as a space for colleagues in and around Kent to come together to discuss parenting culture. We hope that they will foster some interesting cross-disciplinary conversation, and lead to collaborative events in the future. All are welcome, so please spread the word!

For this session we are welcoming a visitor to the Centre, who is presenting on her own research, of interest to anyone working in Higher Education:

**Academic career: dilemmas, problems and controversies – where do we go? The experiences from Poland**

Social acceleration, globalization and commercialization of higher education have changed the academic career patterns. Some policymakers and scholars perceive the neoliberal transformation and commercialization of higher education as a necessity and advantage, while the others, especially from the humanities and social sciences, recognize them as disruptions of a traditional university ethos. During my presentation I would like to present the critique of these changes in the context of the new policy of academic career development in Poland. Moreover, I will point out the main dilemmas and controversies which occurred in the professional practice of scholars that include: the balance and disproportions between teaching and research; publish or perish syndrome, specialization and fragmentation of knowledge and science; maintaining quality and dealing with *bureaucracy* in higher education system.

Daria Hejwosz-Gromkowska, Ph.D is associate professor (adjunkt) at the Faculty of Educational Studies, University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznan, Poland. She is interested in the contemporary problems of higher education and citizenship education.

*Date: Wednesday 25th March*

*Time 3-5pm*

*Venue Cornwallis North West, Seminar Room 1 (University of Kent)*

Please contact Charlotte (c.faircloth AT kent.ac.uk) if you have any queries