

Foucault Studies

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Chloë Taylor, Jens Erik Kristensen & Ditte Vilstrup Holm 2011

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EDITORIAL

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We are delighted to introduce *Foucault Studies* 12, a special issue on Foucault and Race guest edited by Ladelle McWhorter (University of Richmond, USA). We are grateful to Professor McWhorter for bringing together such an exciting group of scholars and for all her work on this issue. The articles included in the special issue are introduced by McWhorter in the "Guest Editor's Introduction."

Before introducing the other items in this issue of *Foucault Studies* we want to share some news with our readers about the increasing visibility of the journal. We are happy to announce that *Foucault Studies* will now be covered by both Scopus and The Philosopher's Index. As the already established coverage by Ebsco's *Humanities International Complete* database, the coverage in Scopus and The Philosopher's Index includes indexation of individual articles and thus increases the dissemination of *Foucault Studies* authors' work.

In addition to the special topics articles in this issue, we are pleased to include three additional essays, each relating to Foucault's writings on neoliberalism. In "From 'Entrepreneur of the Self' to 'Care of the Self': Neo-liberal Governmentality and Foucault's Ethics," Andrew Dilts (Loyola Marymount University, USA) discusses the resonances between Foucault's description of the neoliberal subject in his 1979 lectures, *The Birth of Biopolitics*, and his descriptions of the ethical subject in his writings from the early 1980s. Based on the affinities as well as the subtle differences between the neoliberal and ethical subjects as Foucault described them, Dilts reads Foucault's final writings as a sympathetic but also critical response to neoliberal subjectivity. Based on this insight, Dilts calls for two genealogical studies: the first would be a continuation of Foucault's own genealogy of liberalism, while the second would be a genealogy of Foucault's own thought, situating his lectures on neoliberalism within his intellectual trajectory between the first and final volumes of *The History of Sexuality*. Dilts' remarkable essay constitutes the beginning of both these genealogies.

In "Welfare and Foreign Aid Practices in the Contemporary United States: a Governmental Study," Philippe Fournier (Université de Montréal, Canada) brings an empirical treatment to some well-developed Foucauldian themes surrounding governmentality and neoliberal trans-

formations. Through an analysis of two Federal programs central to U.S. governmental practices since 1960 (the Assistance to Families with Dependent Children and the Agency for International Development), Fournier captures the multi-dimensional logic underpinning governmental practice in the United States and its neoliberal reform in the spheres of both domestic and international policy. Not only are the respective technologies of welfare provision and foreign aid explored for their capacity to distribute effects far beyond the immediate domains of their application, but the specific logics of their transformation from instruments of social government to technologies of neoliberal governmentality is considered. Fournier's article provides a valuable empirical and contemporary addition to the broader theoretical conversation around Foucault's provocative lectures on neoliberal governmentality.

In his paper, "The Biopolitics of Ordoliberalism," Thomas Biebricher (Goethe-Universität, Germany) adds a new chapter to, and expands the studies contained in, Foucault's lectures *Security, Territory, Population* (1978) as well as *The Birth of Biopolitics* (1979) by providing a thoughtful analysis of the work of two key thinkers of ordoliberalism, namely Wilhelm Röpke and Alexander Rüstow. The author discusses the origin and meaning of the notions of biopower and biopolitics, and he shows how these categories can be used to present the works of Röpke and Rüstow. This paper offers an excellent overview of some of the biopolitical aspects to ordoliberal thought. It also points to some possibilities for future research on biopolitics and governmentality.

This issue also includes two interviews. The first interview, "Changing the Subject," took place following the *Agency After Foucault* conference at the University of Toronto in 2007. Michael McGarry of the University of Toronto interviews University of Alberta Professor and Canada Research Chair Cressida J. Heyes. Heyes both responds to questions relating to her recently-published book, *Self-Transformations*, and provides insights into her forthcoming projects. Topics explored in this interview include the uses of autobiography in academic writing; complicity, resistance and agency in Foucault; Foucauldian reflections on the enabling as well as repulsive aspects of university pedagogy; somaesthetics and practice-oriented physicality; and the relationship between freedom and suffering.

The second interview, "Born to Learn," is the translation (by Chloë Taylor) of a short interview with Michel Foucault's brother, Denys Foucault, originally published in *L'Actualité Poitou-Charentes* in 2001. In this photo-illustrated piece, Denys Foucault evokes his childhood with his brother Michel and gives readers a sense of their living environment during the first half of the twentieth century in Poitiers. We would like to thank Jean-Luc Terradillos who kindly granted the permission to publish this translation and who generously sent us some additional photos taken by Marc Deneyer that did not originally appeared in *L'Actualité Poitou-Charente*.

As usual, this issue is completed by a number of book reviews that will be of interest to our readers.

We continue to encourage our readers to submit papers for inclusion in the various sections of the journal (articles, exchanges, "toolbox" items, interviews, etc.) and to sign up to review books for the journal and/or submit proposals for review essays. We also welcome proposals for special sections or special issues of the journal.

The next issue of *Foucault Studies* (spring 2012) will be a special issue on "Foucault and Accounting" guest edited by Peter Miller and Andrea Mennicken (both of London School of Economics, UK). It will also include an unpublished interview by Michel Foucault conducted in 1978 by Colin Gordon (Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust, UK) and Paul Patton (University of New South Wales, Australia).

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