

Title: Postdisciplinary (Academic) Being

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Abstract:

Postdisciplinarity addresses the ways in which tourism knowledge is possible. This notion has been articulated in the seminal works of Coles, Hall, and Duval (2005, 2006, 2009) and by Hollinshead (2010, 2012). Yet, despite their contributions, there is still considerable debate among tourism scholars as to what a postdisciplinarity approach might entail (Feighery, 2013). This talk introduces a novel existentialist approach to the postdisciplinarity debate by drawing on the notions of creativity, criticality, freedom, methodological and epistemic pluralism, and semantically diverse readings of our worlds. Postdisciplinarity, as presented here, is an invitation to various interpretations, critical analysis, and creative problem solving. It extends to questioning conventional norms and processes of knowledge production, dissemination, and communication; it is an invitation to a debate about the genres that have received a privileged position in scholarly activities; and it challenges the established views about the scope and limits of what is possible, relevant, desirable, and even credible in academic terms.