



Inaugural seminar for the research cluster

Celebrities as New Global Actors

Roskilde University is happy to announce the inaugural seminar for the research cluster: *Celebrities as New Global Actors*. The research cluster is part of Roskilde University's new priority research initiative: Dynamics of Globalization, Inequality and New Processes of International Interaction ('Global Dynamics'). This research cluster has been initiated on the basis of our work and collaboration in the Research Network on Celebrities and North-South Relations.

The inaugural seminar will focus on new research areas within the field of celebrity activism in a global context. Celebrities are beginning to be taken seriously as actors in international politics, environmental conversation, climate change, fair trade and social justice. The seminar takes point of departure in social science and humanities research that studies how the celebrity figure serves as a new way of creating community through the media. Celebrities act as mediators between publics and politics movements, between consumers and products, and between 'benefactors' and 'beneficiaries' in the global aid industry. As such, the study of celebrities can provide insights into forms of public authority that cross cultural boundaries through global media, while embodying or potentially challenging local norms. A better understanding of celebrities as new global actors can highlight important aspects of how the mediation of global agency works across North/South configurations.

Please find additional information about the research cluster at the Global Dynamics website www.ruc.dk/globaldynamics and for the Research Network go to celebnorthsouth.wordpress.com

June 12-13th, 2013

Roskilde University, aud. 25.3