Jointly hosted by the Faculties of Humanities and Medicine, this exploratory seminar is targeted at bringing together ongoing research within Aalborg University in the broad area of healthcare communication, ethics, culture and technology to inform future developments in a humanities-driven healthcare communication curriculum. The seminar will have a two-fold structure: (i) presentations from a selected group of participants; (ii) a roundtable discussion concerning translational research to address how the current/projected research profiles of participants can contribute towards improving professional practice.

An interest in ‘the human condition’ brings humanities and healthcare sciences together – both in terms of intervention (to minimize suffering associated with illness) and prevention of disease as well as promotion of health and wellbeing (cf. the World Health Organization (WHO)’s definition of ‘total health’ as ‘a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity’). AAU is keen to expand the health communication curriculum currently being offered through the Faculty of Medicine, while remaining committed to the agenda of marrying humanities and healthcare sciences more generally. Such an agenda will be firmly grounded in evidence-based, long-term collaborative interdisciplinary research with targeted practical relevance in mind.

Communication is broadly conceptualized to include talk, text and other modalities and spans communicative events with patients and careers on the one hand and with colleagues inter-professionally and inter-organizationally – both sites encompassing interpersonal, institutional, ethical and ideological issues. Seen from both professionals’ and patients'/clients' perspectives, this implies situational and extra-situational variations in styles of communication in relation to factors such as gender, ethnicity, class, age, education, community/institutional membership.

Program 8. January 2013

12.30 – 13.15 Lunch at the NOVI canteen, Niels Jernes Vej 10

13.15 – 13.30 Welcome by Professor, Dean Egon Toft, The Faculty of Medicine and Professor, Dean Lone Dirckinck-Holmfeld, The Faculty of Humanities

13.30 – 14.00 "Practice-oriented health communication research" by Professor, Pirkko Liisa Raudaskoski, Department of Communication and Psychology and "Health communication research at Humanistic Informatics, Department of Communication and Psychology, AAU" by Associate Professor, PhD Anders Horsbøl, Department of Communication and Psychology

14.00 – 14.20 "Nurse education in practice – video ethnography and ethics" by Teaching Assistant Professor & PhD Candidate Malene Kjær Jeppesen, Department of Communication and Psychology
14.20 – 14.40 “Model of learning for practitioners in dementia care with music therapy as the joint focal point - With focus on enhancing quality of life and wellbeing for persons with dementia” by PhD Student, Aase Marie Ottesen, Department of Communication and Psychology

14.40 – 15.00 Coffee break

15.00 – 15.20 “Professional competence of tomorrow’s healthcare providers” by PhD Fellow, Mariann B. Sørensen, Department of Communication and Psychology

15.20 – 15.40 “Trust and Responsibility in Tele-medical Relations” by Senior Researcher and Associate Professor Helle Sofie Wentzer, KORA, Danish Institute for Local and Regional Government Research

15.40 – 16.00 “Prenatal diagnosis of tomorrow: new ethical challenges” by Lecturer, Klavs Birkholm, Department of Learning and Philosophy

16.00 – 16.20 Summary of today’s discussions

16.20 Thank You – see You tomorrow

Program 9. January 2013

09.00 – 09.40 “(Re)humanising medicine: contributions from healthcare communication research” by Professor, Srikant Sarangi, Health Communication Research Centre, Cardiff University

09.40 – 10.00 “Health communication research across borders: building capacity in global North and South” by Professor Inger Lassen, Department of Culture and Global Studies

10.00 – 10.20 “Health Philosophy, Health promotion and ethics in a changing world” by Associate Professor, Gunnar Scott Reinbacher, Department of Culture and Global Studies

10.20 – 10.40 Short break

10.40 – 11.00 “A fresh start: Engaging in the social paradigm of Public Health Policy – A perspective of Cervical Cancer diagnosis and treatment in Ghana” by PhD student, Zakaria Lassen Abdul-Hanan, Department of Culture and Global Studies

11.00 – 11.20 “Using the 3-hour meeting process (an organisational tool for educational change and development) to support the doctors ‘roles’, e.g. communicator, by Coordinator of postgraduate education, Aalborg University Hospital, PhD, MLP (LOOP), Associate Professor in postgraduate medical education (AU), Susanne Nørh (abstract attached)

11.20 – 11.40 “Bidirectional communication with IT between patients and staff at the Department of Radiology, Regional Hospital in Silkeborg” by Lecturer, Susanne Hjorth Hansen, Department of Radiography, University College North Denmark

11.40 – 12.00 “Communication skills training integrated in healthcare education curricula” by MA, PhD, Lecturer Annegrethe Nielsen, Midwife education, University College North Denmark

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch at the NOVI canteen

13.00 – 15.00 Round-table discussion

15.00 – 15.15 Coffee break

15.15 – 16.00 Summary of the two days discussions … Thank You and goodbye