



Services for All: Theory, Practice, Struggle

March 28-29, 2007

Jubilee Centre, 21 Nelson Road, Observatory, Cape Town

DAY 1 – Wednesday March 28

REGISTRATION

8:00 – 9:00am

Welcome and Conference Overview
9:00 – 9:30am

OPENING PLENARY

9:30 – 11:00am

*Exhausted Nationalism and the South African State:
Prospects for Progressive Change?*

John Saul
(York University)

*The “Struggle” for Municipal Services in Africa:
Reflecting on the Newly Formed African Anti-privatization Coalition*

Virginia Setshedi
(Freedom of Expression Institute)

Break

11 – 11:30am

**Parallel Session A
11:30am – 1pm**

**THEORY
(BLUE ROOM)**

**PRACTICE
(YELLOW ROOM)**

**STRUGGLE
(RED ROOM)**

**COMMODIFYING LIVES: THE
MICROPOLITICS OF
NEOLIBERALISM**

Decommodifying the Air Patrick Bond (Director, Centre for Civil Society, University of KwaZulu Natal)

Privatization as Social Process: Towards a Feminist Materialist Methodology Melanie Samson (York University)

Prepaid Meters & Disciplinary Commodification Ahmed Veriava

**FALLING APART: HEALTH AND
SAFETY OF FRONTLINE
WORKERS IN CAPE TOWN**

Industrial Health Research Group, University of Cape Town South African Municipal Workers Unions (Samwu)

NGOS ENGAGING THE STATE

Engaging in Government-led Processes: How Useful for Civil Society

Patrick Dowling (Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa)

Experiences of Engagement: The Water Leaks Project in Cape Town- Thabang Ngcozela and Jessica Wilson (Environmental Monitoring Group)

The Citizen's Voice Project Danie Klopper and Emile van Heyningen, City of Cape Town

**Lunch
1:00 – 2:30pm**

**Parallel Session B
2:30 – 4:30pm**

**ELECTRIC CAPITALISM: THE
ENERGY SECTOR AND NEW
MODES OF ACCUMULATION**

Escom to Eskom: From Racial Keynesian Capitalism to Neoliberalism Lenny Gentle (ILRIG)

Recolonizing Africa on the Power Grid David McDonald (Queen's University)

Seeing RED: The Trials and Tribulations of the Regional Electricity Distributors in South Africa Dinga Sikwebu (ILRIG)

Renewing Peoples Power Through Renewable Energy Liziwe McDaid (The Green Connection)

**HIV, MENTAL HEALTH AND THE
COMMERCIALIZATION OF
MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

How Depressing: Poverty, Mental Health and Municipal Services in South Africa Leslie Swartz (Department of Psychology, University of Stellenbosch)

Marketization, Daily Life and HIV in South Africa Kevin Kelly (Centre for AIDS Development, Research and Evaluation, Rhodes University)

**SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: CONTESTING
MUNICIPAL REFORMS**

Health Professionals as Gatekeepers or Facilitators of Community Agency: Can a Social Movement Realize the Right to Health?

Leslie London & Jacky Thomas (University of Cape Town and People's Health Movement Campaign)

Between Social Movements & Political Parties Trevor Ngwane (Soweto Electricity Crisis Committee)

Municipal Participation and Implication for Services Ronald Wesso (ILRIG)

DAY 2
Thursday March 29

Parallel Session C
9 – 11am

THEORY
(BLUE ROOM)

PRACTICE
(YELLOW ROOM)

STRUGGLE
(RED ROOM)

SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND BASIC SERVICES

Power to the People?: A Rights-Based Analysis of South Africa's Electricity Services

Jackie Dugard (Centre for Applied Legal Studies, University of the Witwatersrand)

The Constitutional Court Case on Prepaid Water Meters Virginia Setshedi (Freedom of Expression Institute)

Africanizing the Human Rights Approach to Health: The Art of Caring

Nomafrench Mbombo (Community & Health Sciences, University of the Western Cape)

BEYOND INFRASTRUCTURE: CHOLERA, HAND WASHING AND WATER

The Problem of Handwashing and Paying for Water in South Africa

David Sanders and Mickey Chopra (School of Public Health, University of the Western Cape)

Still Paying the Price: Revisiting the Cholera Epidemic of 2000–01 in South Africa

David Hemson (Human Sciences Research Council)

DIALOGUES IN THE STRUGGLE FOR THE UNIVERSAL DELIVERY OF WATER AND SANITATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

What role can a formalized process of dialogue play in the struggle for the universal delivery of water and sanitation in South Africa? The Water Dialogues - South Africa is a multi-stakeholder process asking how PPPs, PuPs and other institutional approaches affect delivery outcomes.

Mary Galvin (Coordinator: The Water Dialogues, South Africa)

Jessica Wilson (EMG)

Abri Vermeulen (government: DWAF)

Jean-Pierre Mas (private consultant)

Hameda Deedat (civil society: SA Water Caucus)

Break
11 – 11:30am

Parallel Session D
11:30am – 1pm

NEW “PUBLICS” IN SERVICE DELIVERY: EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES TO PRIVATIZATION

The Private Affairs of Public Pensions in South Africa: Debt, Development and Corporatisation

Fred Hendricks (Rhodes University)

Are PUPs an Alternative to PPPs? The Case of Rand Water

Carina van Rooyen (University of Johannesburg)

Improving Public Services: A Labour Perspective from Canada and Beyond

Anthony Pizzino (Director of Research, Canadian Union of Public Employees)

FREE BASIC SERVICES

Free Basic Water: How Far Have We Come?

Abri Vermeulen (Department of Water Affairs and Forestry)

Free Basic Water: Social Upliftment or Social Control?

Greg Ruiters (Rhodes University)

“Beyond Noble Aims, Unintended Consequences”

Hameeda Deedat (SA Water Caucus).

SOCIAL MOVEMENT DIALOGUE – OPEN FORUM

An open forum on the successes, failures and challenges of social movements with respect to municipal services in South and Southern Africa. All social movement representatives are encouraged to attend.

M.P. Giyose (Jubilee, South Africa) and Prishani Naidoo (Anti-privatisation forum).

Lunch
1 – 2:30pm

CLOSING PLENARY
2:30 – 4:00pm

How the Neoliberal Counter-Revolution Backfired

Giovanni Arrighi (Johns Hopkins University)

Neoliberalism in South Africa: What it is and How to Fight it

Trevor Ngwane (Soweto Electricity Crisis Committee)

CLOSING REMARKS
4:00 – 4:15pm