



Touch of Closeness

- maintaining social connectedness

Monday, September 4th, 2017

19:00 Welcome Reception at KUNSTEN - [see details](#)

Tuesday, September 5th, 2017

09:00 Opening of the conference:

Lars Sørbye, Principal of Centre for Deafblindness and Hearing Loss, chair of the Local Planning Committee

Gillian Morbey, President of Deafblind International (DbI)

Mai Mercado, Minister for Children and Social Affairs in Denmark (video)

Ulla Astman, Chair of the Regional Council in The North Denmark Region

Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility (video)

Jude Nicholas, chair of the Scientific Committee

10:00 Coffee break

10:30 Jude Nicholas (Norway) and Liz Duncan (United Kingdom), Scientific Committee (SC)
Introduction to the opening plenary speech and the sub topic Social Connectedness

10:45 Chief Executive Richard Hawkes, British Asian Trust (United Kingdom) and ass. prof. Niels-Henrik Møller Hansen, The Centre for Youth Research, Aalborg University (Denmark)
Isolation according to Social connectedness - the general human aspect

11:45 Break

12:00 Workshops – Session 1 – [see details](#)

12:45 Lunch

14:15 Workshops – Session 2 - [see details](#)

15:00 Posters & coffee break – [see poster details](#)



- 15:30 Liz Duncan, SC
Introduction
- 15:35 Scott Davert (USA)
Technology according to social connectedness
- 16:15 Torbjörn Svensson (Sweden) and Machteld Cossee (The Netherlands)
Identity according to social connectedness
- 16:45 Rasmus Munk Pedersen (Denmark)
How talking tactile with more than one gives access to social connectedness
- 17:00-17.15 Ole E. Mortensen (Denmark)
Ending the day
- 17.30-19.00 Special event (not part of the scientific programme):

The small world of Macteld Cossee – a documentary and following talk with Macteld Cossee
Room: W1 / Det lille Teater (1st floor)

Wednesday, September 6th, 2017

- 08:15 Practical information
- 08:30 Ole E. Mortensen
Moderation
- 09:00 Jude Nicholas, SC
Introduction to the sub topic Touch and to the plenary speech
- 09:05 Dr. Alberto Gallace, University of Milano-Bicocca (Italy)
Touch and the Body: tactile awareness and the science of interpersonal touch
- 10:15 Jude Nicholas and Linda Eriksson (Sweden), SC
A brief response to the plenary
- 10:30 Coffee break
- 11:00 Workshops – Session 3 – [see details](#)
- 11:45 Break
- 12:00 Workshops – Session 4 – [see details](#)
- 12:45 Lunch
- 14:15 Workshops – Session 5 – [see details](#)
- 15:00 Posters & coffee break - [see poster details](#)



- 15:30 Jude Nicholas and Linda Eriksson, SC
Introducing the personal stories
- 15:45 Karine Vassbotn Hestholm (Norway) and Grzegorz Kozłowski (Poland)
A personal story from a person with acquired deafblindness on the importance of the sense of touch
- 16:30 Grete Steigen (Norway) and Kari Schjøll Brede (Norway), SC
A personal story from a parent/professional working with people with congenital deafblindness on the importance of the sense of touch in developing communication, reducing social isolation and improving social connections
- 17:00-17.15 Ole E. Mortensen
Ending the day
- 17:30 Special event (not part of the scientific programme):

Demo: Tactile aids
Room W5 / Latinerstuen

Thursday, September 7th, 2017

- 08:15 Practical information
- 08:30 Ole E. Mortensen
Moderation
- 09:00 Trees van Nunen (The Netherlands), SC
Introduction to the sub topic Closeness and to the plenary speech
- 09:05 Prof. J.P.J. (Joris) Slaets, University Medical Centre Groningen (The Netherlands)
Closeness and ageing
- 10:00 Liz Duncan and Sanja Tarczay (Croatia)
Personal stories and the relation to deafblindness
- 10:30 Coffee break
- 11:00 Marleen Janssen (The Netherlands) and Hans-Erik Frölander (Sweden)
Introduction to the Research Symposium

Research Symposium with the presentation of the latest research – [see details](#)
Room: PL / Europahallen
- or
- 11.00 Special event (not part of the scientific programme):
Ethics, Economy and Human Rights - the Great Debate – [see details](#)

Reflective presentations on financial, ethical and human right issues followed by a panel and plenary debate with focus on the tension between the three issues
Room: W3 / Musiksalen
- or
- 11.00 Special event (not part of the scientific programme):
Visit to Centre for Deafblindness and Hearing Loss in Aalborg – [see details](#)



- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:15 Workshops – Session 6 – [see details](#)
- 15:00 Posters & coffee break - [see poster details](#)
- 15:30-17.00 Network meetings
- 18:45 Pre-dinner drinks and Social Dinner, Comwell Hotel Hvide Hus - [see details](#)

Friday, September 8th, 2017

- 9:15 Practical information
- 9:30 Ole E. Mortensen
Moderation

Speeches about the future from the voices of:

- 10:00 Frank Kat (The Netherlands)
The future from the voice of Dbl
- 10:15 Stefan Wiik (Sweden)
The future from the voice of the parents
- 10:30 Sanja Tarczay (Croatia)
The future from the voice of organizations of deafblindness
- 10:45 Coffee break
- 11:15 Henriette Hermann Olesen (Denmark), SC
Introduction to the plenary speech
- 11.20 Ass. Prof Joakim Garff, Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre, University of Copenhagen
(Denmark)
In the vision of great Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard
- 11:55 Closing speech by SC
- 12:00 Gillian Morbey, Dbl
Awards and closing of the conference
- 13:00 Lunch or lunch-to-go

Programme overview (subject to change) for the Dbl 2017 Conference



Time	Monday 4th	Tuesday 5th	Wednesday 6th	Thursday 7th	Friday 8th
08.15 – 08.30		08.00-09.00:	Practical Information	Practical Information	
08.30 – 09.00		Registration	Moderation	Moderation	
09.00 – 10.30		Official Opening	Touch <i>Touch and the Body: Tactile awareness and the science of interpersonal touch</i> Dr. Alberto Gallace	Closeness <i>Closeness and ageing</i> Prof. J.P.J. Slaets	
	Pre-conferences and activities: Usher Network – 3-4.9.17 All about CHARGE – 4.9.17 Nordic Day – 4.9.17 Dbl Youth Network Event – 2.-4.9.17			<i>Closeness and aging from the perspective of:</i> - Acquired deafblindness - Congenital deafblindness	Moderation <i>About the future for the deafblind field from different voices</i>
10.30 – 12.00			Social Connectedness <i>Isolation according to Social Connectedness – the general human aspect</i> Chief Executive Richard Hawkes and ass. prof. Niels-Henrik Møller Hansen	Workshops <i>11.00-13.00: Research Symposium or How does ethics and economy merge? or Visit to Centre for Deafblindness and Hearing Loss</i>	<i>In the vision of the great Danish philosopher Soeren Kierkegaard: Existential Anxiety and it's influence on twentieth century thought.</i> Ass.prof. Joakim Garff
12.00 – 12.45			Workshops	Workshops	
12.45/13.00 – 14.15		12.45: Lunch	12.45: Lunch	13.00: Lunch	13:00 Lunch – or lunch to-go
14.15 – 15.00		Workshops	Workshops	Workshops	
15.00 – 15.30		Posters & coffee	Posters & coffee	Posters & coffee	
15.30 – 17.00	16.30-18.30: Registration	<i>Social connectedness from the perspective of:</i> - Technology - Identity - Communication	<i>The sense of touch from the perspective of:</i> - Acquired deafblindness - Congenital deafblindness	Network meetings	
17.00 – 17.15		Ending the day	Ending the day		
	19.00-21.00 Welcome reception	17.30-19.00 Special event	17.30-18.00 Demo: Tactile aids	18.45 Social dinner	