Reading one another – intersubjectivity and the constraints of orthodoxy

This talk presents one account for the reasons behind how we represent and theorize face to face interaction. I consider one methodological path that has steered social interaction researchers to build accounts for interactional organization, in the formats that are now considered the default mode for representing interaction. I consider how in pursuing this path, we may have ended up in a methodological blind alley, and at risk of rendering the object of our investigation invisible. Using interactional data from a range of settings, I argue that in attempting to analyse interactional phenomena that do not lend themselves easily to our typical methodological procedures, we may yet be able to get beyond the constraints imposed on us by our training.