

FLECK LECTURE

THE TRANSFORMATION OF MEDICAL TRUTHS IN HISTORY,
AT THE LIGHT OF LUDWIK FLECK'S CRITICAL EPISTEMOLOGY

Anne-Marie Moulin (Directeur de Recherche at the CEDEJ in Cairo)

Donnerstag, 23. November 2006, 19 Uhr
Aula der Universität Zürich, Rämistrasse 71, 8006 Zürich

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The progress of knowledge and medical knowledge in particular is commonly agreed upon. Yet, the history of medical sciences registers swift transitions and even scientific revolutions and radical changes in the mode of thought, which implies that the truth of yesterday is constantly evolving.

The talk will investigate the changing nature of medical truth, by referring to historical examples of the transient nature of such truths. Is it possible to oppose scientific truths that are universal and timeless, to clinical truths that are ephemeral and being related to the individual, are earmarked with contingency?

Is it possible to use the pioneering interpretation of Ludwik Fleck of medical facts as produced by a «Denkkollektiv», sorting out the ephemeral and the stable element in medical truths or is medical truth, historically and essentially, unstable?

Moderator: **Johannes Fehr** (Leiter Ludwik Fleck Zentrum)

In Verbindung mit der Fleck Lecture findet unter dem Titel «The day after seminar» am Freitag, 24. November 2006, 10.15 bis 12 Uhr, mit Anne-Marie Moulin ein öffentliches Kolloquium statt. Ort: Collegium Helveticum, Schmelzbergstr. 25, 8006 Zürich.

Die Durchführung der Fleck Lecture wird durch eine grosszügige Schenkung von Dr. h. c. mult. Branco Weiss ermöglicht.

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