

Bonnie Burstow, Geoffrey Reaume, Robert Menzies, Shaindl Diamond - Make Space for Resistance Against Psychiatry in the Halls of Academia

This panel included four academics who are organizing resistance against psychiatry within the university context. Each presenter discussed how they have used university resources to contribute to community and movement work, some of the advantages and challenges that come with the territory, and ways they have addressed the challenges. The presenters come from different disciplines including adult education, sociology, social work, psychology, history, and disability studies. Each presenter discussed the types of resistance they have pursued within the academy, including organizing conferences that are against or critical of psychiatry; establishing antipsychiatry and psychiatric survivor perspectives as legitimate within the university, whether that be through the creation of courses, scholarships, or university organizations; accessing university space and resources for community events; and carving out strategies for students in the "helping" professions to choose to work in places other than psychiatric settings. The panel requested 90 minutes in total, so that each presenter will have 15 minutes to explain their specific experiences of resistance work, leaving 30 minutes for questions and discussion with the audience.