

[Tapez ici]



**Séminaire d'animation scientifique interdisciplinaire portée par l'antenne
montpelliéraine de NSS-Dialogues**

L'approche des capacités : développement humain et développement durable

Le séminaire comprendra deux présentations, de Lori Keleher puis de Jérôme Pelenc.

Lieu : Salle 006, site Saint Charles, 2, rue du professeur Henri Serre, Montpellier

Date : Mercredi 25 Septembre 2019

Horaires : 14 h – 17 h

Is Integral Human Development Ethics a Capability Approach, a Capability Theory or a Capability Hybrid?

Lori Keleher is an associate professor of Philosophy at New Mexico State University. She has published essays in development ethics, practical ethics, and ancient philosophy. She is the coeditor of the *Routledge Handbook of Development Ethics* (with Jay Drydyk, Routledge 2019); and of *Agency and Democracy in Development Ethics* (with Stacy Kosko, Cambridge University Press 2019). She is the Vice President of the International Development Ethics Association (IDEA). She is on the Executive Council, a Fellow, and the Coordinator of the North American Regional Network of the Human Development Capability Association

The Capability Approach to Human Development (CA) was first pioneered by economist Amartya Sen and philosopher Martha Nussbaum. Since the 1990s this has been the leading approach of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). This is reflected in the Human Development Index (HDI). The UNDP's 20th anniversary Human Development Report defines human development as “the expansion of people’s freedoms to live long, healthy and creative lives; to advance other goals they have reason to value; and to engage actively in shaping development equitably and sustainably on a shared planet” (2010, p. 2).

There are many versions of the CA. Amartya Sen offers an open-ended comparative approach in which what capabilities are to be valued is left to those using the approach. Martha Nussbaum offers an incomplete theory of justice which she proposes a list of capabilities, or freedoms, and general suggestions for institutional arrangements designed to protect these freedoms in order to promote human flourishing.

Recently, Ingrid Robeyns, has attempted to make clear that the various versions of the CA and debates amongst CA theorists reflect the flexibility of the approach. Robeyns rightly stresses that there is a difference between the broad category of the *Capability Approach* and any particular individual *Capability Theory*. Robeyns argues that there are eight essential A

[Tapez ici]



Modules that must be consistently represented in any capability theory in order to qualify as a true capability theory, and seven essentials, but multiple-realizable, *B Modules* that must be represented in some form or another as well as four optional *C Modules*. Finally, there are also what Robeyns calls “hybrid theories” that use some, but not all aspects of the CA.

In my presentation I first present the CA and Robeyn’s A, B and C Module analysis. I then explore whether or not my own view *Integral Human Development Ethics*, qualifies as a capability theory or a hybrid theory. *Integral Human Development Ethics* draws on Louis-Joseph Lebret’s insight that human development efforts must strive to promote the flourishing or development of “each person and of the whole person.” I argue that giving the fact that human beings share social and natural connections with one another and with nature, in order to be truly integral, human development efforts must demonstrate respect for the natural world (e.g., through sustainability, conservation, etc.).

Beyond Sen's capability approach, toward an integrated framework for the assessment of sustainability

Après une thèse de doctorat à Paris 3-Sorbonne Nouvelle et un post-doctorat au FNRS (équivalent du CNRS) à l’Université Libre de Bruxelles, Jérôme Pelenc est Maître de conférence en économie à l’université Toulouse 2 Jean-Jaurès. Son travail a consisté ces dernières années en un rapprochement entre l’économie écologique, l’approche par les capacités et les besoins fondamentaux (Max-Neef) afin de construire un cadre d’évaluation intégré des interactions société-nature. Plus récemment, il a travaillé sur la justice environnementale et les conflits d’aménagement dans une perspective de Political Ecology.

Publications : https://scholar.google.be/citations?user=dx_0SdMAAAAJ&hl=fr
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jerome_Pelenc/publications?sorting=recentlyAdded&editMode=1

Dans cette présentation j’illustrerai tout d’abord comment avec certains collègues de l’équipe française travaillant sur les capacités nous avons tenté d’adapter cette approche pour la rendre pertinente et compatible avec les enjeux soulevés par l’environnement et plus largement le développement durable. En effet, telle que conçue à l’origine par Amartya Sen, l’approche par les capacités ne prend pas en compte la nature, ni les enjeux écologiques liés à l’irréversibilité, ni d’ailleurs l’aspect collectif des interactions sociales. Dans un second temps j’illustrerai comment nous avons cherché à répondre aux faiblesses de l’approche par les capacités pour la prise en charge de l’action collective. Je finirai par présenter quelques exemples d’application dans le domaine du développement local durable.