

On behalf of Dr. M Naidu (School of Social Sciences)

You are cordially invited to a talk;
Cancer Journey: A Long walk to Freedom

A patient, long before [s]he becomes the subject of medical scrutiny, is, at first, simply a storyteller, a narrator of suffering, a traveler who has visited the kingdom of the ill (Mukherjee 2010:46).

Speaker: Prof Shalina Mehta

Panel: Lucinda Johns, Maheshvari Naidu

Thursday 26 February-2:00 pm – 3:30pm

Culture Heritage and Tourism Seminar Room- MTB 2nd Floor

Prof Shalina Mehta (Panjab University, India) will share her cancer journey and allow us a window into her world. She will be joined by Lucinda Johns (UKZN) who will also speak about her experiences with the dread disease that covers a cluster of over 100 different types; CANCER.

Cancer is a potent example of a disease that grips and plays out on the body in a myriad ways. The biomedical model reduces illness to a biological mechanism of cause and effect (see Wong and King 2008), while the practice of medicine itself is broken down into smaller and smaller 'medical bytes' in the name of specialisations; the oncologists, the cardiologists, the radiologists, the surgeons and so on.

These specialists and subspecialists all take care of different parts of the same body, while cancer itself impacts on the entire body and person.

Allowing individuals to share their stories about what has happened to them in the context of their illness, encourages them to talk about themselves as 'selves', and us to listen to them as SELVES, rather than just organs, even as they might be describing particular parts of their bodies, and what is or has happened to their bodies (see Naidu 2012).

Tea will be served!

Please RSVP to: naiduu@ukzn.ac.za