Togetherness and food – commensality and eating.

Pre ICCAS Conference
Wednesday, July 5. 2017  13:00 – 16:00,
AAU Campus. AC Meyersvænge 15, Auditorium 2.1.043

Eating together in groups (commensality) is one of the more important manifestations of human sociality. The concept of commensality has been studied within different disciplines earlier, but benefits from a multidimensional approach, including historical aspects. Recent developments in eating patterns introduce new perspectives, where more meals are eaten outside of home, and a majority of households have single occupancy and elderly eating alone. By an increased understanding of commensality, who is eating with whom, where, how and for how long and how this affects their every-day life and quality of life, we can identify social innovations and policy guidelines, building on an understanding stemming from current as well as historical research. The network for commensality research recently got funded from the Disciplinary domain of social sciences and humanities at Uppsala University in order to identify commonalities and possibilities for multidimensional research. This conference invites colleagues around the world to join in the efforts to move forward in this research area, also in regards to future policy aspects. This conference aims to explore the importance of commensality in the past and the present and is arranged by the Commensality research network at Uppsala University (UU), Sweden. Chair: Professor Agneta Yngve

Program

Ancient times – Mediterranean areas – 13.00-13.40

- Commensality at Festive Meals in ancient Israel and Judah; Professor Göran Eidevall, Department of Theology, UU, Sweden
- Commensality according to the New Testament Professor Cecilia Wassén, Department of Theology, UU, Sweden

Current observations – Portugal and Sweden 13.40-15.20 (including coffee break)

- The family that eats together stays together - commensality and togetherness in old age. Professor Maria Daniel Vaz de Almeida, FCNAUP, Porto University, Portugal
- The importance of commensality for elderly in Sweden. Professor Ylva Mattsson Sydner, Department of Food, Nutrition and Dietetics, UU, Sweden
- Dr Christine Persson Osowski, Commensality at school and at home – the perspective of children in Sweden. Department of food, nutrition and dietetics, UU, Sweden
- On the sociality of meals: beyond commensality, Dr Nicklas Neumann, Department of food, nutrition and dietetics, UU, Sweden
Dietary guidelines’ aspects 15.20-15.40

- The Mediterranean diet 4.0 and the dietary guideline perspective of commensality.
  Professor Agneta Yngve, Department of food, nutrition and dietetics, Uppsala University, Sweden.

Discussion – conclusions 15.40-16.00

Practical information
The conference is a pre-ICCAS 2017 conference and is intended for researchers and practitioners engaged in food studies. You can read more on pre-ICCAS 2017 activities at the ICCAS website www.capfoods.aau.dk/iccas17

How to get to the pre-conference venue:
From the airport or coming from Malmö by train you go to the central train station in Cph and change to an S-train line A or E and go to the Sydhavn station. You can find a map HERE – from the station it is walking distance say 700 m to the main building of the campus. See here http://www.en.cph.aau.dk/about/direction/. I have not yet been told which room we will be in but will let you know.