

## Einladung zum Vortrag

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### Technoscientific Optimism, Anti-Aging Medicine & Engineered Negligible Senescence

Dienstag, 17. Juni 2003, 19 Uhr

Seminarraum des IFZ, Schlögelgasse 2/Ecke Kaiser-Josef-Platz, Hochparterre

#### Abstract

*This presentation is intended to be very much a work in progress sort of piece. I am in the middle of thinking about some interesting new data and hope to get some feedback during this discussion of this new thread.*

The Anti-Aging Medicine movement and the movement involving Engineered Negligible Senescence in the USA (and cropping up globally as well) seeks to locate aging, or more specifically old age, as a target for biomedical intervention. A number of different parties are active in a number of different ways; what they share, however, is a certain sense of technoscientific optimism.

This talk will detail these two emerging groups as they position themselves and one another. I will discuss the ways in which technoscientific optimism shows up in rhetorical strategies as well as in practice. And what does it mean to be technoscientifically optimistic? What rights and responsibilities are constructed in the wake of this imagined future and, perhaps more importantly, what roots such an imaginary?

#### Mykytyn, Courtney Everts

Mykytyn completed her undergraduate degree in biological sciences at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. 1998 she began working toward her Ph. D. in cultural anthropology at the University of Southern California. She focuses on medicine, aging and science and her dissertation, entitled "Executing Aging: An Ethnography of Anti Aging Medicine" examines the anti-aging-movement in the United States.

While working on her dissertation, Mykytyn teach-assists in the departments of anthropology and gerontology at USC and in humanities at Harvey Mudd College.

#### Publikation

- Mykytyn, C. E. (2003): Anti-Aging Medicine and the Irrelevance of Being Natural: A Patient/Practitioner Movement to Redefine Aging (upcoming for publication in "Social Science and Medicine")