



# Social Dimensions of Health Institute - Seminar



**Tuesday 17th December, 2013  
at 3pm**

led by

**Lia Poeder**

Visiting Occupational Therapy Student  
Washington University

## **Community Participation: Accessibility of Public Transportation for People with Mobility Impairments**

This seminar (which is FREE to attend)  
will be held in

**Room 2F13  
Dalhousie Building  
University of Dundee**

**ALL WELCOME**

For catering purposes, if you would like to  
attend then please contact  
Rosanne Bell, [r.c.bell@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:r.c.bell@dundee.ac.uk) or  
Fred Comerford, [fac1@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:fac1@st-andrews.ac.uk)



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# Social Dimensions of Health Institute

**Lia Poeder** is a visiting student from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri completing her clinical doctorate in Occupational Therapy. She has clinical experience working with pediatric spinal cord injury, and will be working at the International Center for Spinal Cord Injury in Baltimore, Maryland upon her return to the US. Her interests lie in improving community access and engagement for people with mobility impairments.

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**Community participation** in meaningful activities including work, leisure, religion, etc, is critical for quality of life and well being (Stav et. al, 2012). Structural and social barriers in the community often exist for disabled people, preventing them from engaging in society.

Accessible transportation is one component that is imperative for community participation. With 40% of households in Dundee reporting that they do not own a vehicle (Scotland Census, 2011) public transportation is key for accessing meaningful activities. This is often the case for those who are disabled as well as aging adults as these populations are often unable to drive.

This study examined the social and structural barriers and facilitators present in public transportation for people who have mobility impairments including older adults.



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*SDHI is celebrating 10 years of producing and facilitating innovative cross-institutional and multidisciplinary research in St Andrews and Dundee*