

The Socialist Studies Seminar Presents:



Poster: He is Faking. He is Healthy but Feigns Illness in Order to Defraud Workers' Insurance. He is Robbing Those Who are Really Ill and Violating Labor Discipline.

**Kenneth Pinnow, Professor of History and Global Health Studies,
Allegheny College**

Bad Doctors, Bad Patients: Law, Ethics, and the Negotiation of Medical Authority in the Early Soviet Union

During the 1920-30s, Soviet doctors faced a newly empowered population that was making greater demands and had growing expectations. Patients faced what they perceived to be inept, callous, and recalcitrant doctors. Acts of violence against physicians, coupled with an uptick in criminal cases for medical malpractice, created a climate of anxiety and mistrust. The Soviet medical community increasingly turned to the law and the state for protection and to establish boundaries. Its reliance on external mechanisms speaks to the formation of medical authority in an environment where tradition, self-governance, and respectability were either weak or absent.

Friday, April 22, 2022

4:00-5:30 pm

Baker/Porter Hall 336B, CMU

**Sponsored by Carnegie Mellon
University, Department of History,
REEES, University of Pittsburgh**

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