

INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Research Committee on Racism, Nationalism and Ethnic Relations

RC05 NEWS LETTER

Spring 2008

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| <h3>Editorial</h3> |
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We are pleased to commence the editorial calendar of our Newsletter with its Spring issue. As it is customary, Peter Ratcliffe, is addressing our membership with news on research developments and the status quo of our RC05 Committee. It also highlights the recent news on the forthcoming Barcelona forum. Do not miss the chance to contribute with the session on 'official' data collection on ethnicity and 'ethnic group/origin'.

The Newsletter includes useful information for conferences and grants as well as the release of new books.

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| <h3>Contents</h3> |
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- 1. Presidential address**
- 2. First ISA World Forum, Barcelona, 2008**
- 3. New publications**
- 4. News from the U.K.**
- 5. International Summer School**
- 6. Conference announcements**
- 7. Book review editor**
- 8. Membership renewal**
- 9. News Letter**

1. President's Report

As the ISA World Forum is now approaching fast, this will naturally take pride of place in my report. I would also like to take this opportunity, however, to assess the current state of RC05 and how it has developed since the Durban Congress. Following this, I intend to follow my usual practice of reporting on major events in the UK and from our research centre at the University of Warwick.

RC05: Issues and Developments

Following discussions in Durban, our policy has been to expand membership of RC05 with a particular emphasis on increasing representation in countries where we have previously had little penetration. Progress is promising but of course we would urge existing members to continue to 'spread the word' about our work. We are now firmly in the largest category of RCs with a membership edging towards the 200 mark. If you meet with interest from colleagues who have yet to join us please suggest they contact RC05 Vice-President (membership), Zlatko Skrbis (z.skrbis@uq.edu.au).

There is then the question of how we increase the participation of members given the geographical spread. Our major conferences have a key role to play, but these are necessarily few in number, and are often difficult to attend (not least, for many of you, on grounds of cost). This inevitably leads me to the perennial issue: involvement of members via contributions to our Newsletter.

We don't have to think too far back to recall the pleas of the previous incumbent as RC05 President, Nira Yuval-Davis, for members to use this publication to keep others in touch with developments (research, seminars/conferences, policy and politics) in their part of the world. I am, of course, well aware that you are all extremely busy people and are probably as allergic to writing reports as yours truly. I am also conscious that the Newsletter format has probably been eclipsed in the eyes of many by contemporary IT facilities such as 'blogging' (please see my suggestion below concerning a proposed meeting in Barcelona). However, I still feel that this round-up of news still has an important role to play (and is in any case a requirement under ISA rules, as you know).

So, please take a few minutes on a regular basis to let Natividad Gutierrez Chong (RC05 Vice-President and Editor of the Newsletter) know of news of possible interest to other members (nativid@servidor.unam.mx).

2. ISA World Forum, Barcelona, 5th – 8th September 2008

the latest news by Peter Ratcliffe

The Barcelona programme is essentially that communicated to all RC05 members by email with, as far as I am aware, only one exception. Ulrike Vieten, who has provided sterling service to RC05 (working especially with Nira), was hoping to attend the Forum and co-chair a panel session with me. Sadly, she has been forced to withdraw but will, of course, continue as an active member.

I would like to take this opportunity, however, to remind members of the open invitation to attend and contribute to the Roundtable co-chaired by Patricia Bell and I. We are seeking to encourage a wide-ranging debate on the social and political (as well as methodological) ramifications of ‘official’ data collection on ethnicity and ‘ethnic group/origin’. We are aware that there is a very wide swathe of debates and controversies in different parts of the world about not only the feasibility but also the desirability of such policies/practices. Patricia and I will kick off the discussion with short presentations and will then encourage others to join in the debate, in particular with evidence from other societies. A number of you have already indicated an intention to do so, but we would be delighted to hear from others with an interest in joining in the debate (contact me at Peter.Ratcliffe@warwick.ac.uk or Patricia at patricia.bell@okstate.edu).

Perhaps I should take this opportunity to remind you of two deadlines. The lower, **‘early bird’ registration rate for the Forum expires on 31 May 2008**, so if you have not yet registered and wish to attend you should bear this in mind. The same deadline, 31 May 2008, also applies to the submission for publication of abstracts accepted for the Forum. So, if you wish to share your work with a much wider audience, please register with CSA Abstracts. Details of both of these registration facilities are outlined on the conference website (accessible from the ISA Homepage).

I would now like to return briefly to an issue raised earlier, namely member involvement. It has been the practice in recent RC05 conferences to convene a general meeting of members. It strikes me that one useful topic to discuss would be how to generate a greater sense of ‘community’ amongst our members. Another would be the broader public role of sociologists. As to the former, developments in IT may provide increasing possibilities but you may well have many other ideas to air. *If you have other topics you would like debated at such a meeting, please let me know a.s.a.p.*

Beyond this, it just remains for me to say how delighted I am that so many members have expressed a commitment to attend the Forum, and I look forward to meeting you in September.

3. New books

Migration and Domestic Work, edited by Helma Lutz

See attachment

4. News from the UK

Peter Ratcliffe
Director, Centre for Rights, Equality and Diversity
University of Warwick

3 May 2008

In the last RC05 Newsletter I outlined some of the key UK issues in 2007. During the early part of the current year, similar issues have remained at the top of the political agenda. This essentially means labour migration from those eastern European countries that have joined the EU from 2004, and the perceived threat of 'Islamic extremism'.

The influx of, for example, significant numbers of Polish migrants has created tensions, especially in those areas unaccustomed to immigration, due to increased labour market competition, and the strains on local services and infrastructure. Employers have, however, largely welcomed the influx, praising both the quality of their work and their level of commitment (making invidious comparisons with the former labour pool). On the same time, mirroring the experiences of earlier migration flows, local hostility is directed at the new arrivals for taking the sorts of jobs that they were often, in truth, not willing to do. One interesting report to emerge during the past week, however, has estimated that half of the Polish migrants arriving in the UK post-accession (2004) period have now returned to Poland (provoking a note of consternation from the Confederation of British Industry (the national organisation representing employers)). So, the balance of the debate may be about to turn somewhat.

As to the perceived threat from 'radical Islam', there is one major story to report. Having failed to gain parliamentary support in 2007 for the right to hold without charge for more than (the then limit of) 28 days those suspected of crimes under the existing terrorism legislation, the New Labour government is mounting a further attempt. Currently being debated in the Commons (the lower House of Parliament) is a government sponsored Bill that would permit a suspect to be held without charge for up to 42 days. This has, not surprisingly, generated a wave of protest both from civil liberties groups concerned about the human rights implications and from those who argue that this could merely exacerbate the 'problem' by further alienating dissident Islamic groups.

Research News from Warwick

1. The Centre for Rights, Equality and Diversity (CRED) has been fortunate to be able to bring Zlatko (Skrbis) to Warwick as Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) Visiting International Fellow. During his two-week stay (28 April – 11 May 2008), he will present a paper to the Department of Sociology on his current research featuring a major longitudinal study of young people in Australia, and will provide support to our doctoral students. The major public event will be an open lecture on 8 May in which Zlatko will talk to the title *Contested Belonging and the Limits of Multiculturalism: the case of Australian Muslims*. Of more direct relevance to those of you who are offering papers at the ISA World Forum, however, is that fact that he and I will be discussing possible approaches to academic journals with a view to publishing some of your work.
2. I have just completed, along with Warwick colleagues, a critical review of the concept of ‘community cohesion’ and its applications in policy and practice in the UK. Many of you will know that I regard this turn in central government policy as a severe threat both to the anti-racist cause and to the equalities agenda. The research, funded by the Audit Commission, will lead in due course to our report on their website.

Our website is currently under the process of development. You can visit it at www.warwick.ac.uk/go/cred.

5. International Summer School

International Summer School “Selected Concepts of Comparison and Methods of Empirical Migration Research” 29. 09. – 03. 10. 2008

Objectives:

This summer school provides insights into the state of the art of empirical migration research. Renowned specialists in their fields introduce selected quantitative as well as qualitative research methods and situate them in the context of current research approaches. Additionally, methods are treated and discussed in more detail in small working groups. Overall, the program offers advanced M.A.- and Ph.D. students the opportunity to present and discuss their research projects in a professional environment of scholars and experts.

Program:

The first day is dedicated to five keynote speakers who present current research questions and compare various (migration) research approaches and their methodological implications. Participants will have the chance to discuss with the experts in small working groups throughout the day as well as during the conference dinner on Monday night. During the second and third day four workshops (two parallel at a time) on qualitative and quantitative methods with regard to the study of migration will be held, including the analysis of migration regimes, migrant organizations, and migrants’ biographies and life courses. Participants may choose two out of the four workshops. On the fourth day each participant will have the chance to present his or her research design either in a plenary session or in small thematic working groups and is invited to make comments on the research outlines/designs of the other participants. The fifth day is an optional day, which could (according to participants’ interests) include a cultural visiting program in cooperation with local or regional migrant organizations.

Application Process:

Please submit an abstract of 300 words and a short letter of motivation until 30 June 2008 to the following address: Tülay Tuncer-Zengingül <tuelay.zenginguel@rub.de>.

Additionally, the two preferred workshops should be indicated. The language of the international summer school will be English.

No conference fee is raised. We are sorry to announce, that neither travel nor lodging reimbursements can be given. Information regarding accommodation options and conference details are available on our website at <http://www.rub.de/soaps/iss>.

The Summer School is organized jointly between the Faculty of Social Science/Ruhr-Universität Bochum (Prof. Dr. L. Pries), the Department of Social Sciences/Universität Duisburg-Essen (Prof. Dr. A. Weiß) and the Research School of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum (PhD candidate M.A. Kerstin Rosenow).

Contact: Prof. Dr. L. Pries Chair Sociology of Organisations and Participation Studies (soaps), Faculty of Social Science/Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Building GB 04/42, 44780 Bochum – Germany Phone +49-234-32-25429, FAX +49-234-32-14446, Email: Tülay Tuncer-Zengingül <tuelay.zenginguel@rub.de>

Date Program

Monday 29th State of the art reports on concepts of international and transnational comparison for migration research (keynote speakers and small discussion groups) Comparative Studies in the EU (*Bernhard Ebbinghaus/Mannheim*) International Comparison or Transnational Studies? (*Ludger Pries/Bochum*) National and/or cosmopolitan attitudes (*Steffen Mau/Bremen*) Migration and the nation state (*Michael Bommers/Osnabrück*)

Conference Dinner

Tuesday 30th 2 workshops: participants can choose 1 workshop

1a

(National) migration regimes and (international) migration systems

1b

Migrants' trajectories and life-course analysis

Michael Bommers/Osnabrück

Barbara Laubenthal/Bochum

Götz Rohwer/Ulrich Pötter/Bochum

Dawid Bekarlarczyk/Duisburg

Wednesday 1st 2 workshops: participants can choose 1 workshop

2b

Migrants' biographies and the analysis of status passages

2a

Measuring migrants' organization structures and environments

Anja van Heelsum/Amsterdam

Zeynep Sezgin/Bochum

Anja Weiß/Duisburg-Essen

Roswitha Breckner/Vienna

Thursday 2nd Presentation and discussion of individual research projects

Friday 3rd Optional Day: Visiting cultural program and interviews with migrant organisations in the Ruhr area

6. Conference announcements (London, Sydney, Austin, Nevada, Berlin, Ohio, Stirling)

Theoretical, methodological and political implications of doing research among refugees

Professor Nira Yuval-Davis

See attachment

The 4Rs Conference

Rights, Respect, Reconciliation, Responsibility

Planning for a socially inclusive future for Australia

An international conference locating Australian policy & practice dilemmas within an international context.

University of Technology, Sydney (UTS), City Campus - Tuesday,
30 September - Friday, 03 October 2008

* Paper Proposal Submissions for academic peer review
<<http://epress.lib.uts.edu.au/ocs/index.php/4Rs/>>

* Paper, workshop, performance and other proposals not
for academic peer review
<<http://www.the4rsconference.org/submit-proposal.html>>

* Registration
<<http://www.the4rsconference.org/registration.html>>

Presentations can only be confirmed for registered delegates: preliminary notification of acceptance will be provided by May 30 and thereafter fortnightly.

Second round paper proposals due June 30, 2008. Limited places for presentations
All abstracts peer-reviewed if desired Conference proceedings peer reviewed

The 4Rs Organising Committee invites submissions for papers, panels, presentations, performances and other forms of participation. The 4Rs frame Australia's future as a cosmopolitan civil society. This conference comes at a critical time for Australia, when the opportunities and desire for change abound, yet older fears still persist. The 4Rs explore the internal debates and the relationships between crucial social, political and cultural questions, with their relevance to public policy, community development and societal cohesion. The conference is designed around the four themes and their interaction- human rights, Indigenous advancement, inter-communal relations, and active citizenship.

Rights

Australia remains the only Western democracy without a national human rights framework, yet it is a society in which the struggle for rights has been a central part of history - for Indigenous people, women, ethnic and religious minorities, people with disabilities and those involved in same-sex relationships. The Rights stream (R1) invites contributions that discuss global, national and local concerns across the full range of human rights issues, from the initial engagement with political rights, through social and cultural rights, to the most recent questions raised by action on disability and indigenous rights. It encourages philosophical as well as political and legal approaches. It explores the practical politics of

achieving a national human rights framework within the international community.

Reconciliation

Wherever colonial powers have settled their populations on the lands of indigenous peoples there have been ongoing crises and conflicts. Reconciliation (R2) seeks to understand the truth of those histories and devise ways through which people from both indigenous and immigrant origins can work and live together in a shared society. Australia has faced a particularly difficult period as it has struggled with both symbolic and practical forms through which reconciliation should be advanced. The reconciliation stream invites contributions that explore the challenges, success and failures in reconciliation across the world, and the specific dimensions of reconciliation in Australia. It welcomes community presentations, and joint presentations between scholars, policy groups and Indigenous activists. It particularly looks towards younger people and their perspectives on future directions for reconciliation.

Respect

In the often-heated conversations about relations between ethno-religious communities in pluralist societies, in the past framed by ideas about multiculturalism and tolerance, a key concept is that of respect. Respect (R3) requires recognition of the validity of different approaches to everyday life, and a desire to society to recognise the value of all other communities. In democratic societies it also points to the critical role of respect for individual human rights even though at times this may strain inter-group relations. Australia has experienced serious challenges to the place of respect in societal discussions about diversity, as have many other western societies. The respect stream invites contributions that explore the tensions around the idea of respect, its representation, and its presence or absence in the discourse of difference globally and in Australia. It welcomes collaborative presentations that explore either comparative cases or innovations in community, arts and other practices in which respect is mobilised as a positive value.

Responsibility

Societies are made up of reciprocal relationships of responsibilities, in which various benefits are received and various obligations incurred. Citizenship, both political and cultural, provides the context in which debates about responsibilities most often occur. This Responsibilities theme (R4) addresses the debates about citizenship and how these have been affected by the transformations in world society in the current generation. Citizenship has been considered as a purely political question, relating to the legal status of individuals in their relations to nation states. It has also reflected broader concerns with social citizenship, active citizenship and cultural citizenship, where the broad ranges of human rights are considered to be part of the dynamics of citizenship. It explores the responsibilities citizens have for each other, for the well-being and protection of the state, and the responsibilities the state has for the well-being and freedoms of its citizens. The responsibilities theme invites contributions that explore these multiple meanings of citizenship, and that can expose connections to the other themes of the conference. In particular it invites debates regarding the imposition of various tests for citizenship and what they reveal about the status of the citizen in the contemporary world.

Cross Theme proposals

This track supports innovative approaches to issues that bridge more than one theme, and involve participants from differing backgrounds and perspectives. It can also provide a location for arts-based presentations, performances and workshops.

Andrew Jakubowicz

Conference Convenor

Maqsood Alshams

Conference Secretary

Organisers: Centre for Cosmopolitan Civil Societies, University of Technology Sydney - SAVE Australia Inc - Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts - Institute for Cultural Diversity

Partners please contact us for partnership opportunities:

Convenor@The4RsConference.org <mailto:Convenor@The4RsConference.org>

Sponsors please contact us for sponsorship opportunities:

Secretary@The4RsConference.org <mailto:Secretary@The4RsConference.org>

Conference Registration is now open, to register please go to:

<http://www.the4rsconference.org/index.html>

<<http://www.the4rsconference.org/registration.html>>

CFP: Institute for Historical Studies at UT-Austin: Global Borders

The Institute for Historical Studies at UT-Austin invites proposals for 2008-09 in two categories:

1) We invite proposals for weekly workshops to be held throughout the year. Our current theme is "Global Borders." Please note that we conceive of borders very broadly in conceptual (for instance, legal, cultural, aesthetic, gender and so on) as well as political or geographic terms, and we welcome proposals that explore "Global Borders" in a wide variety of ways. 2) We solicit paper proposals for a conference in international environmental history to be hosted by the Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Texas in April 2009. The conference, tentatively entitled "The Nation-State and the Transnational Environment," will consider intersections between international/diplomatic and environmental history. Key questions include the following: How have governments of territorially bounded nation-states sought to cope with transnational environmental problems throughout history? What has been the role of international organizations and other non-state actors such as corporations, NGOs, and expert communities? How successful have nation-states and international organizations been in confronting transnational dilemmas? How have local communities attempted to resolve these problems? What are the prospects for international agreements to fight global warming and other urgent issues? We welcome paper proposals exploring these problems in any place or period. In both categories, we will pay the expenses of the selected participants whose papers will be pre-circulated. The closing date for proposals in either category is April 15, 2008. For full details of the theme and the application procedure for proposals, see:

<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/historicalstudies/theme/>

For the other activities of the Institute, including its year long residential fellowships, see:

<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/historicalstudies/>

For any queries, email to

historyinstitute@austin.utexas.edu

Julie Hardwick

Associate Professor & Director of the Institute for Historical Studies

Department of History

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University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX 78712

(512) 475-7221

CALL FOR PAPERS

Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies

2008 Conference November 7-8, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

This year's Conference of the Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies (PCCLAS) will be held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, November 7-8, 2008. The conference will bring together scholars, educators, graduate, undergraduate, and high school students, and community members interested in Latin American Studies. Papers from all areas of the social sciences, humanities and the arts and/or cross-disciplinary studies and relating to Latin American/Latino/a Studies are invited. All topics are welcome. Selected papers will be published in the Conference's Proceedings.

Submissions:

Proposals for single papers and complete sessions are welcome. Single paper proposals should include your paper's title and abstract (200 word or less), and your name, academic affiliation (if appropriate), and contact information. Session proposals (3 to 4 presenters) should include: the session's title and contact person; the same information required of single paper proposals for each of the session's presenters. Proposals to: lead open forums, discussion groups, teaching workshops; to set up booths for graduate or study abroad programs; and/or to screen films or project other media are also welcome.

Email your submissions to the 2008 PCCLAS Program Chair, Robert Kirkland, at atpcclas2008@cmc.edu. Receipt of submissions will be acknowledged via email within 48 hours. You may also send your submission via regular mail to:

Robert Kirkland
Department of History
Claremont McKenna College
850 Columbia Avenue
Claremont, CA 91711-6420

Migration in Museums: Narratives of Diversity in Europe

A Call for Conference Participation

Open to museum professionals, exhibition curators, researchers from the humanities and social sciences, representatives from immigrant communities and artists. Organized by Network Migration in Europe e. V.,

ICOM Europe (International Council of Museums), Centre de Documentation sur les Migrations Humaines, Dudelange (Luxemburg) in cooperation with the following six Berlin-based museums

- Deutsche Kinemathek - Museum für Film und Fernsehen/Museum of Film and Television
- Jüdisches Museum Berlin/Jewish Museum Berlin
- Jugendmuseum Schöneberg/Youth Museum Schöneberg
- Kreuzberg Museum

- Museum Neukölln

- Stiftung Stadtmuseum Berlin (Märkisches Museum)/City Museum Berlin

Date: October 23-25, 2008 Location: Berlin (in participating museums)

The project is supported within the framework of the Berlin Hauptstadtkulturfonds

Topic

Questions of immigration and integration have become key issues in contemporary European intellectual and political debates. In the wake of European societies' ongoing social and economic incorporation of millions of immigrants and refugees, questions pertaining to the cultural representation of these processes are increasingly emerging. Debates about the interconnectedness of immigration, history and memory, as well as on commemorative practices in diverse societies are gaining momentum. As a consequence, cultural institutions are challenged by rethinking and the possibility of reconceptualizing their work. This is particularly true for (historical) museums and their narratives. Museums in Europe currently encounter a threefold challenge. First, they face a new social structure of visitors: more and more people of immigrant origin have become an important target group as European societies diversify. Second, the predominant, and often prevailing, national frameworks and the national historical narratives used in historical exhibition have been questioned by immigration and the challenge it poses to national master narratives. Third, the history of immigration itself becomes a rising field for historical reflection, research and commemoration, thus diversifying the landscape of historical studies, historical exhibitions and museums.

Scope and Goals of the Conference

The conference will bring together museum professionals, exhibition curators, researchers from the humanities and social sciences, (cultural) representatives from immigrant communities and artists. The format will transcend the traditional format of an (academic) conference. Next to a common opening and a public concluding session, participants will intensively work in six different workshops. Each workshop comprises 10 to 12 participants and will last for 1.5 days. The goal of the workshops is to initiate a European process of reflection and discussion on migration in museums in order to generate new ideas, new concepts, new narratives and new perspectives. We do not expect lengthy papers from participants, but rather short and sharp contributions for intensive discussions enabling new interpretations, which will confront established patterns of thought and practice and will enrich our imagination in the field. The minutes of the workshops will be the basis for a publication to be launched in 2009.

Framework of the Conference

The conference will be the concluding event for a research and interview project with immigrant artists (film makers and writers) in Ten European Cities (Amsterdam, Athens, Berlin, Istanbul, London, Luxemburg, Madrid, Oslo, Paris, Warsaw). The interviews will focus on the reflections of these intellectuals on history and historical narratives, be it their own life histories as immigrants, be it their reflection upon the history of their countries of origin/destination, be it European history, be it immigration history. These interviews will result in a webpage and a documentary. Moreover, the film footage is planned to work as intellectual stimulus for the conference and workshops, and it will be shown in the participating six museums from October 23 to 25. The interviewed artists will be invited to Berlin as participants in the conference and workshops.

Application

Applications for participation are welcome through the deadline of May 30, 2008. Your application should include a mini essay/sketch of ideas (a max. of 600 words), a short biographical note (not more than two pages) and a list of (selected) publications, curated exhibitions or other relevant work in the field of immigration and/or museums. The essay should reflect upon and discuss the following question:

"How to represent and/or exhibit diversity in Europe?"

The text can be a classical mini-essay or a sketch of ideas for a cultural project in a museum or an exhibition. It can also touch upon wider questions and travel beyond the museum's walls. Versions of these essays (though not in an elaborated academic form) will serve as input statements for the workshops in order to trigger discussions.

Applications will be considered on a competitive basis. In addition to 40 invited speakers, 25 to 30 places are open to respondents to this Call for Participation. Limited financial support for the participants is available to subsidize travel and accommodation expenses. It can be granted upon request. For further information, please visit the website:

<http://www.network-migration.org/workshop2008>

For contact us via E-mail (Migration.Museums@web.de). Applications should be sent to the given email address by May 30, 2008. The selection committee will choose and notify the participants by the end of June 2008.

CFP: African Intellectuals and Decolonization

This conference is the second in a series of academic conferences at Ohio University centred on the theme "Perspectives on African Decolonization," and focuses on African Intellectuals and Decolonization.

In 1958, Guinea, under

Ahmed Sékou Touré, chose political independence over continued association with France. The All-African Peoples Convention hosted by Kwame Nkrumah in Ghana in the same year highlighted the links between and among Africans and peoples of African descent in the Diaspora. 2008 is also the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the seminal journal *Présence Africaine* by Alioune Diop. Focusing on African intellectuals and decolonization will allow for an interrogation of all three concepts as well as an opportunity to examine the roles intellectuals have played and continue to play in contemporary African efforts at liberation from economic neo-colonialism. Additionally, this conference will provide an opportunity to highlight the cutting edge work of contemporary African philosophers, the heritors of the intellectual traditions established by the generations who fought for the liberation of Africa. The works of these scholars who are developing systems of thought rooted in African vernacular concepts will have significant implications for the Arts and Humanities and interpretations thereof as well as the (Westernized) Academy more broadly.

Featured speakers include:

* Oyeronke Oyewumi

Department of Sociology

State University of New York at Stony Brook

* Elizabeth Schmidt
Department of History
Loyola College in Baltimore

* Tsenay Serequeberhan
Department of Philosophy
Morgan State University

Conference planners invite the submission of abstracts for papers and panels from scholars and graduate students in any academic discipline. Presentations that are interdisciplinary and/or transnational in scope will be particularly welcome. Abstracts for individual papers should be 250-300 words and accompanied by a brief CV (no more than two pages). Panel proposals should include abstracts and CVs for each presenter as well as a 250-500 word overview of the panel.

Topics for discussion include but by no means are limited to:

- * Who is African?
- * Who is an intellectual?
- * What do we mean by decolonization?
- * Colonialism and decolonization in Africa
- * Neocolonialism and (neo)decolonization in Africa
- * Women and decolonization in Africa
- * Decolonizing the (Westernized) Academy
- * African philosophies and decolonization
- * African indigenous knowledge systems and decolonization
- * The Arts and African decolonization
- * African literatures and decolonization
- * The Sciences and decolonization in Africa
- * Conservation of natural resources in Africa and decolonization

As the conference will be held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of Guinea's independence on October 2, 2008 we will particularly welcome panels and papers concerning Ahmed Sékou Touré, Guinea, and decolonization.

Selected papers will be published in an edited collection of essays to commemorate these significant moments in African history and to reflect upon the legacies of fifty years of "independence" in Africa. Please submit paper and panel proposals to: Acacia Nikoi, nikoi@ohio.edu

The deadline for submission of proposals is May 30, 2008. Limited travel funding is available for graduate students. Please apply for a travel stipend on the conference registration page by May 30.

A block of rooms is being held at the Ohio University Inn & Conference Center, which offers complimentary parking, complimentary hi-speed wireless internet, 24-hour business and fitness centers, Cutler's Restaurant, and Bunch of Grapes Tavern. The OUIInn is less than five minutes from the conference venue at the Baker University Center. The special conference rate is \$99.95 per room, per night plus applicable taxes (currently 12.75%). Reservations may be made via the conference registration page or by calling the hotel directly at (740) 593-6661 or accessing the link below.

https://reservations.ihotelier.com/crs/g_reservation.cfm?groupID=75492&hotelID=4598

For additional information about The Inn, please visit their website at www.ouinn.com. For further information on the conference, please contact Dr. Nicholas Creary, Department of History, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701, creary@ohio.edu, 740-593-4334.

Reading After Empire: Local, Global and Diaspora Audiences
An international conference to be hosted by the University of
Stirling, Scotland

3-5 September 2008

Confirmed speakers:

Arjun Appadurai, Jackie Kay, Greg Myers, Stephanie Newell, Vron Ware How should we read colonial and postcolonial texts? Is reading an act of resistance, or the domestication of difference? Does postcolonial studies posit an 'ideal reader'? What (if anything) are the differences between local, national and transnational audiences? How can we ever adequately interpret the imperial archive? This conference focuses on the neglected but central role of reading in colonial, postcolonial and diasporic contexts. It uses reading in its broadest sense (e.g. as reception, viewing, consumption, translation) to raise questions about the politics, and the pleasures, of interpretation. We are interested in both empirical and theoretical accounts of readers and audiences across a range of genres (e.g. literary, cinematic, televisual, internet-based) and contexts (e.g. libraries, living rooms, cinemas, book groups, chat rooms).

Suggested topics might include: contrapuntal reading; imagined and interpretive communities; catachresis; the postcolonial exotic; literacy; reception as a situated activity; colonial libraries; postcolonial history of the book; nationalism and hermeneutics; readers in fiction and film Titles and abstracts of no more than 200 words should be sent electronically, along with a 50-word biography, by May 16th 2008 to Bethan Benwell (b.m.benwell@stir.ac.uk) More information can be found at <http://www.devolvingdiasporas.com/conferences.htm>

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| 7. Book Review Editor |
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The Journal of Intercultural Studies calls for expressions of interest in the following position:

Book Review Editor:

As one of four editorial team members the Book Review Editor's role entails:

Requesting catalogues and books from publishers for review.

Soliciting reviews and review essays from appropriate scholars.

Carefully consider review submissions; communicate editorial changes/recommendations to the author.

Liaise with review authors regarding progress and deadlines.

Copy-edit and submit reviews to the Journal's Associate Editor in accordance with the publication schedule.

Liaise with the Journal's Associate Editor regarding publication deadlines, word lengths/page numbers.

Provide the Journal editorial team with monthly book review status reports.

Archiving: submissions and reviewers' details.

Please note that since the Journal of Intercultural Studies works primarily with electronic submissions, the Book Review Editor position can be performed from any location.

Expressions of interest, accompanied by a CV inclusive of referees, should be sent to jics@tandf.com.au.

For further information regarding the Journal of Intercultural Studies, please visit our website: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/07256868.asp>.

Expressions of Interest for Book Review Editor close Monday May 19th.

8. Membership renewal

Thank you to all of you who have promptly renewed your membership. Our future activities depend on your membership/financial support. For information on membership please visit the ISA website at <http://www.isa-sociology.org/>.

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9. News Letter

Any relevant material for publication and circulation in the forthcoming issue of the RC05 Newsletter is welcome. The material may include conference and workshop announcements, information on new publications, book reviews, career moves, reflections on contemporary issues that might be of interest to our members etc. Please forward any relevant material.

Dr Natividad Gutierrez Chong
Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales
National University of Mexico UNAM
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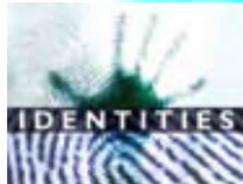
Theoretical, Methodological and Political Implications on Doing Research Among Refugees

Identity, Performance
And Social Action:
Community Theatre
Among Refugees

Research Director:
Prof Nira Yuval-Davis

UEL
University of
East London

E·S·R·C
ECONOMIC
& SOCIAL
RESEARCH
COUNCIL



Prof Nira Yuval-Davis and Erene Kaptani invite you to a two day conference to celebrate the conclusion of the three year research project **Identity, Performance and Social Action: Community Theatre Among Refugees**.

Day 1 – 7th march 2008

A discussion of the theoretical, methodological and political issues emanating from the research. This will be followed by a performance by Playback South and a reception in the evening.

Venue: Oxford House, Derbyshire St, Bethnal Green, London E2 6HG

Day 2 – 8th march 2008

Playback and Forum Theatre workshops in which the conference participants will be able to try out the theatre techniques used by the research project.

Venue: Room UH304 University of East London, Stratford Campus, University House, Romford Rd, London E15 4LZ

Keynote speakers will include **Don Flynn, Prof Paul Heritage, Phil Marfleet** and **Prof Margie Wetherell** as well as members from the refugee organisations that the research project worked with.

Admission is free, but places are limited. For more information please see www.uel.ac.uk/ipsa or to book a place contact: Catherine Donaldson c.donaldson@uel.ac.uk or tel: 020 8223 7085

Now available from Ashgate Publishing...



Migration and Domestic Work

A European Perspective on a Global Theme

Edited by **Helma Lutz**, J.W. Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

'This rich and diverse collection of studies illuminates the varieties of experiences hidden behind the single label of domestic worker, ... a book for everyone who wants to understand gendered states, women's labor migrations, and family change.' – *Myra Marx Ferree, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA*

'...essential reading for those interested in migration movements, care work or gender regimes, but anyone wanting to understand European societies will find fascinating insights here.' – *Ann Phoenix, University of London, UK*

Domestic work has become highly relevant on a local and global scale and is now considered the largest labour market for women world wide, triggering the feminization of migration. In this volume, European and US-based researchers look at the connection between migration and domestic work on an empirical and theoretical level. They elaborate on the phenomenon of 'domestic work' in late modern societies by discussing different methodological and theoretical approaches in an interdisciplinary setting, and also look at the gendered aspects of domestic work, asking why the re-introduction of domestic workers in European households has become so popular and arguing that this phenomenon is challenging gender theories. This is a book of interest to academics and students of migration, gender and European studies.

Contents: Foreword; Introduction: migrant domestic workers in Europe, *Helma Lutz*; PART 1 DOMESTIC WORK – BUSINESS AS USUAL?: The intersection of childcare regimes and migration regimes: a 3-country study, *Fiona Williams and Anna Gavanas*; Migrations and the restructuring of the welfare state in Italy: change and continuity in the domestic work sector, *Francesca Scrinzi*; When home becomes

a workplace: domestic work as an ordinary job in Germany?, *Helma Lutz*; Perceptions of work in Albanian immigrants testimonies and the structure of domestic work in Greece, *Pothiti Hantzaroula*. PART 2 TRANSNATIONAL MIGRATION SPACES: POLICIES, FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT: The globalization of domestic service – a historical perspective, *Raffaella Sarti*; Perpetually foreign: Filipina migrant domestic workers in Rome, *Rhacel Salazar Parreñas*; Domestic work and transnational care chains in Spain, *Angeles Escriva and Emmeline Skinner*; Contingencies among households: gendered division of labour and transnational household organization – the case of Ukrainians in Austria, *Bettina Haidinger*. PART 3 STATES AND MARKETS: MIGRATION REGIMES AND STRATEGIES: Risk and risk strategies in migration: Ukrainian domestic workers in Poland, *Marta Kindler*; Between intimacy and alienage: the legal construction of domestic and carework in the welfare state, *Guy Mundlak and Hila Shamir*; Being illegal in Europe: strategies and policies for fairer treatment of migrant domestic workers, *Norbert Cyrus*; Conclusion: domestic work, migration and the new gender order in contemporary Europe, *Gul Ozyegin and Pierette Hondagneu-Sotelo*; Index.

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