

**International Sociological  
Association**

**Research Committee for  
Women in Society (RC32)**

**Newsletter # 3  
October 2016**



## Message from RC32 Co-Presidents



Warm greetings to all RC32 members and friends of RC32. Hooray! Hooray! Hooray! to all of us for a successful ISA Forum in Vienna, particularly our own RC32 sessions. It was great meeting RC32 members from all over the world and putting faces to the names. We appreciate all the support we received from session organizers, panel chairs, and participants. Special thanks to our ISA President, Margaret Abraham for her active participation in RC32 proceedings, especially the Business meeting and RC32 Presidential Session. We also extend special thanks to our Board members, including all of our Regional Representatives. We are very appreciative of our secretary/treasurer Melanie Heath, who put tremendous effort into planning our great wonderful reception and disbursement of travel funds to recipients. Thanks ever so much Melanie.

We are pleased to report that RC32 has 354 members and continues to be the largest RC in ISA. RC32 also has a diverse membership representing all world regions. This diversity was clearly reflected in the sessions organized by RC32 in Vienna. We both visited several of these sessions which were well attended and ranged from a minimum of 20 to maximum of 60 people in attendance. Overall, RC32 organized 11 joint sessions, 2 Roundtable Sessions with five panels within each session, one Author Meets Critic Session hosted by our former RC32 President Evie Tastsoglou; and 12 Regular Paper Sessions. RC 32 was also well represented at the Plenary Sessions with a presentation by Akosua Adomako Ampofo (RC 32 Co-President) entitled "Black Lives, the Africa we want and an African-centred Approach to Knowledge Production" in the closing session on "The Future We Want: Global Sociology and Struggles for a Better World"; and Rhoda Reddock representing RC32 in the Common Sessions. Her presentation was entitled "Sociology, Feminisms, and the Global South: Back to the Future". Thank you

Rhoda and Akosua for your thought provoking and engaging papers. We look forward to reading them in forthcoming publications produced from these sessions.

During the congress RC 32 was able to host a generous reception with support from the Austrian RC Feminist Theory and Gender Studies, the German RC Women's and Gender Studies, the Swiss RC Committee Gender Studies, and Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS, USA). They were represented at the reception by Paul Scheibelhofer (Austrian RC), Encarnación Guttierrez-Rodríguez (President, German RC), Brigitte Liebig (President, Swiss RC) and Marcia Segal (SWS). We are grateful to these associations, as well as Brigitte Aulenbacher (president, Austrian RC who could not attend the reception) for their generosity, as well as Maria Carmela Agodi and Isabella Crespi of the European Sociological Association for facilitating this. We look forward to making this a tradition of joint support from co-hosting nations.

In preparation for the Fall 2018 and Summer 2022 World Congresses, the ISA Research Council is required by the Statutes to elect a Nominating Committee for the Presidency and Vice Presidencies. The Nominating Committee is comprised of five members who are regular individual members in good standing and who will be ineligible as candidates for any of these positions. We are pleased to inform you that Josephine Beoku-Betts (RC32 Co-President), was elected as a member of the Nominations Committee. The deadline for submitting nominations for President, Vice Presidents and Executive Members is January 31st, 2018.

A number of issues were discussed at the Council Meeting that was attended by Josephine on behalf of RC32. Among the key points discussed were (1) preparations for the ISA Congress in Toronto in 2018. Plans are already underway to provide a smooth process for visa applications, airline discounts, and reasonably priced hotel accommodations for ISA members as reported by the Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee. RCs were notified that arrangements can be made for Pre-Conference Workshops. This was reported at the RC32 Business Meeting and members expressed an interest in planning a pre-conference workshop in Toronto. A sub-committee was formed to see what can be planned for 2018. The committee is comprised of Shwetha Adur, Ann Denis and Ann Brooks. (2) The Council discussed the matter of designated spaces for all RCs at future Congresses or Forums. This will allow for more informal

discussion among members when there is a designated space at the conference (3) The question was raised concerning whether there should be an increase in research grants for RCs. This was tabled for further discussion. (4) There was a call to drop the two year ISA membership requirement for travel grant recipients. This matter was also tabled for further discussion among RC Board Members.

#### Meetings attended by RC32 co-Presidents since 2014

2015: Akosua Adomako Ampofo (Co-President) and Glenda Bonifaci (former Secretary/Treasurer) were invited as plenary speakers for the European Sociological Association Conference held in Prague, August 25-28. They both presented papers in the Semi-Plenary Session on “Public Policies and Solidarity in Women’s Lives: Comparing Regions of the World to Feed Sociological Imagination”. Other RC32 members participating in the conference were: Maria Carmela Agodi and Isabella Crespi.

2016: Sociologists for Women in Society Annual Winter Conference held in Memphis, Tennessee, February 4-7, at which the SWS International Committee and RC32 Co-Organized a panel session on “Global Learning: Who Gets to Define It”. Co-organizers were Solange Simoes (Eastern Michigan University), Josephine Beoku-Betts (Florida Atlantic University and RC 32 Co-President) and Akosua Adomako Ampofo (University of Ghana and RC32 Co-President).

Panelists were: Solange Simoes (Eastern Michigan University), Josephine Beoku-Betts (Florida Atlantic University), Manisha Desai (University of Connecticut), Bandana Purkayastha (University of Connecticut), Mary Osirim (Bryn Mawr College), Judith Gordon (Yale University) and Anurekha Chari-Wagh (Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, India).

International Sociological Association and Criminologists without Borders organized a joint session at the UN Commission on the Status of Women NGO Forum held at the Church Center for the United Nations, March 15. The Panel Session was on “Women’s Empowerment, Sustainable Development, and Strategies to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls: Sociological Contributions”.

Moderators: Rosemarie Barbaret, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, USA and Jan Fritz, University of Cincinnati, USA and University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Panelists: Margaret Abraham, Hofstra University and President, ISA

Bandana Purkayastha, University of Connecticut, RC32, and American Sociological Association representative to the ISA

Lori Sudderth, Quinnipac University, USA

Jennifer Peirce, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, USA and Olga Espinoza, Universidad de Chile

Josephine Beoku-Betts, Florida Atlantic University and RC32 Co-President

Other RC32 Activities:

CEGENSA Conference, Ghana, October 17, 2016

One RC32 Embedded Panel Sessions has been planned in collaboration with the Center for Gender Studies and Advocacy (CEGENSA)'s 10th Anniversary Conference at the University of Ghana, from October 27-29, 2016. The conference theme is "Gender and Women Studies for Africa's Economic and Socio-cultural Transformation", particularly salient at a time when some of the GWS programs on the continent are experiencing new forms of exclusion and silencing.

ICSU

In 2014, ICSU invited RC32 to explore the possibility of conducting a study on "Gender Harassment in Fieldwork" with the objective of submitting a proposal for funding by ICSU. RC32 formed a committee spearheaded by Roberta Villalon (St. John's University, New York, USA). Roberta developed a concept paper on the subject. However, funding wasn't available from ICSU to do the study. As a result, RC32 planned a panel session on the subject for the ISA Forum in Vienna, Austria. This session was entitled: "Intersectionalities of Power in Research: Strategies for Action and Justice". Five papers were presented during this panel as part of RC32 regular paper sessions.

## RC 32 Statutes

RC 32 is in the process of revising its statutes. As of now the suggestions for revision have been sent to members for review and discussion by e-mail. Joanna Hajicostandi (University of Texas, Arlington) will spearhead the Statutes Review Committee in collaboration with a sub-committee and the RC32 Board. The final document will be ready for approval by the ISA Congress in Toronto, Canada in 2018. One of the recommendations is to change the title of RC 32 (Women and Society) to (Women, Gender and Society) to reflect current trends in the research activities of RC32 members.

Special thanks go to our newsletter editor, Nazanin Shahrokni, for her excellent work producing this newsletter and for managing our Facebook page. We appreciate all that you do Nazanin.

Wishing you all a successful and productive academic year ahead. Best wishes to you all,

*Josephine and Akosua*

Co-Presidents of RC32



*RC 32 Mourns  
the Loss of  
Dr. Cynthia Joseph*

We are very sad to announce the death on Monday, October 10th 2016, after a period of illness of Cynthia Joseph, RC 32 President Elect (2014-2018) and President (2018-2022).

Cynthia was an active and dedicated member of RC32 and served in various capacities as Regional Representative, Board Member, Session Organizer for several conferences since she joined RC 32 in 2016. As co-Presidents, we worked closely with Cynthia in planning for RC 32 Sessions in Vienna, including a session she organized on “Gender, Culture and Technologies in the Knowledge Economy”. Cynthia was one of those members one could always rely on to step in when there was a need and she was always happy to do so for the good of the RC. She was a well published and accomplished scholar in the area of Identity, Cultural Differences, and Gender Inequality in Education and Work Contexts in Asia. She was very much looking forward to serving as President of RC32 for the 2018-2022 term and we know that she would have made a significant contribution to the development of our research committee.

Cynthia will be greatly missed by all of us. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family and her colleagues at Monash University. We will contact RC32 members later regarding a tribute to Cynthia on behalf of RC 32 to commemorate her scholarly work and contributions to ISA and RC32 in particular. Please refer to the ISA President Maggie Abraham’s tribute to Cynthia as well as photos sent by Evie Tastsoglou and Maggie Abraham in the Members News section of the newsletter. May she rest in peace.

*Josephine and Akosua, Co-Presidents of RC32*

## RC32 in Vienna

The 3<sup>rd</sup> ISA Forum of Sociology, Vienna, Austria, July 10 to 14, 2016

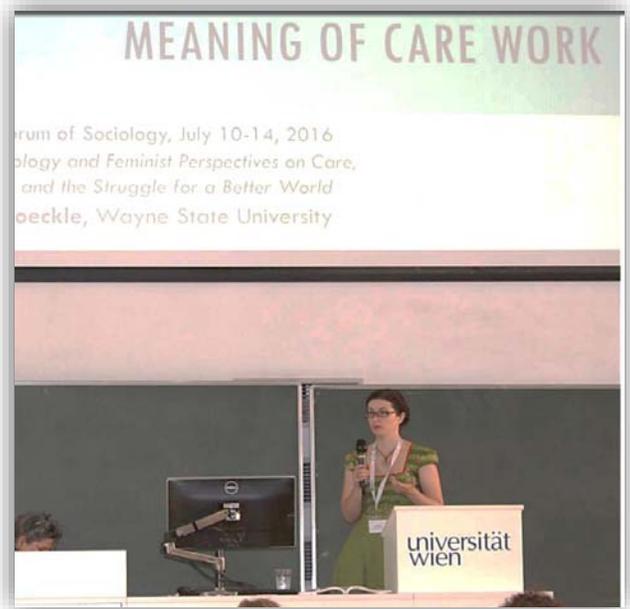
### Photo Album

(Contributors: Margaret Abraham, Akosua Adomako Ampofo, Brigitte Aulenbacher, Anna-Britt Coe, Daisy Nwaozuzu, Bandana Purkayastha, Ayse Saktanbar, Evie Tastsoglou)





















Madam  
President



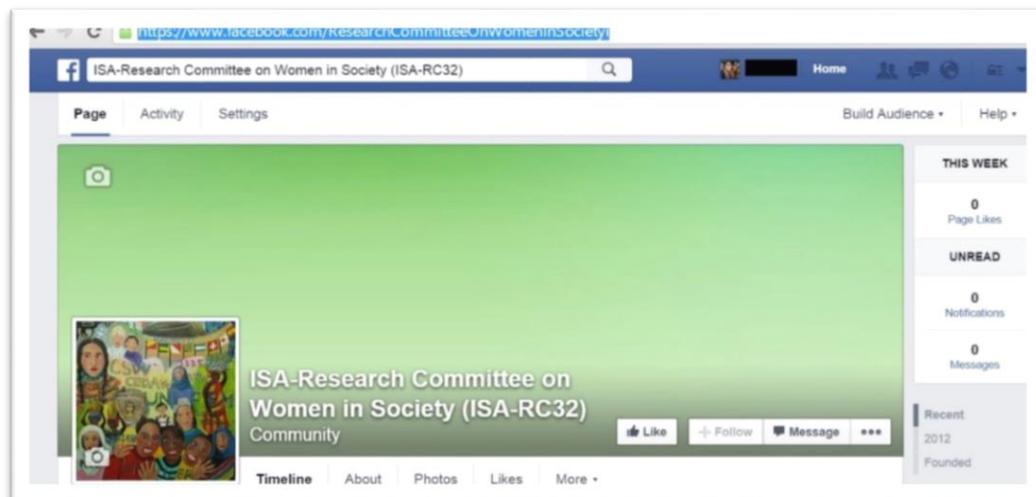
See You in Toronto in  
2018



## RC32 on Facebook

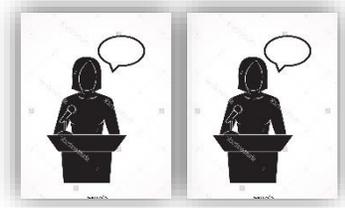


In order to reduce the communication work load for the secretary and create a more vibrant environment within which RC32 members could exchange information and get updates on various conferences and RC32-related events, we have created a Facebook Page for RC32 (See below). From now on, such news as announcements of promotions, publications, jobs, conferences, etc. will be communicated via our Facebook Page and will be administered by our newsletter editor. Please send such news via Facebook messages. All announcements, information, instructions from the ISA, Co-presidents, and members of the board or Regional Representatives that are directly related to core RC 32 business will continue to be shared via our secretary.



## RC32 in Action

### Session Reports from Vienna



► **Ann Brooks** reports on the conference in Vienna with an emphasis on the place of RC 32:

This year's Third ISA was held at the University of Vienna and shortly after Brexit, so I braced myself to face a barrage of jokes and recriminations about the UK vote. Well there was some gentle humor in the plenaries but the response was mainly one of pity.

The conference was based in the opulence of the University of Vienna. With its historical and contemporary position in relation to both European and global sociology this conference attracted 5,000 sociologists from across the globe. I usually find the ISA a somewhat unwieldy conference compared to the BSA and ASA but Research Committee (RC) 32 Women in Society, has a wonderfully inclusive feel and gave coherence to the entire conference for me (see below). Increasingly some of the best conferences have women center stage, including the ASA 2015 Conference in Chicago, with the then ASA President, Paula England, and the current ASA President and Chair of the 2016 Program Committee, Ruth Milkman (CUNY –Graduate Centre). The ASA Conference was held in Seattle in August 2016.

The current ISA President is Margaret Abraham (Hofstra University, USA) who together with a team at the University of Vienna delivered a conference which did not disappoint. A series of important and thoughtful plenaries addressed the global dimensions of the conference with the University of Vienna organizing team providing an interesting European dimension addressing the Brexit issue. A generally favorable balance was achieved between global and European dimensions. The Opening Plenary featured a number of academics from the University of Vienna and they were clearly delighted at attracting over 5,000 sociologists to this impressive university as the conference base. The Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Vienna, Ulrike Felt, provided an uplifting and impressive 2 summary of the social sciences at the University Vienna and I can see the number of applicants for positions there

escalating as a result. It was also great to see governmental support for the social sciences, with Barbara Weitgruber, Director General, Austrian Ministry of Science delivering a very positive statement in support of the social sciences.

Margaret Abraham's ISA Presidential Address, found here: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016> was an important statement in equity and intersectionality and made an important contribution to this lively opening Plenary. Margaret is also an important contributor to the ASA Conference, particularly in terms of the International aspects of both conferences. While the conference lacked the celebrity appeal of the ASA, it certainly did not lack in the seriousness of the debates. One of the most interesting debates came from the closing plenary chaired by Marcus Schultz (New School for Social Research, New York), with Asef Bayat (University of Illinois) 'Imagining a Post-Islamist Democracy', Akosua Adomako Ampofo (University of Ghana) 'Black Lives Matter and the Status of the African World', Todd Gatlin (Columbia) 'What Kind of a World Can Weather Climate Change?' and Alain Touraine (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociales, France), as discussant.

#### Research Committee (RC) 32 Women in Society

The size of the conference meant that affiliation to specific programs proved a favored response. I am a member of RC32 Women in Society and the program was widely regarded as one of the best at the conference. The Program Coordinators for RC32, Akosua Adomako Ampofo (University of Ghana) and Josephine Beoku-Betts (Florida Atlantic) had worked to organize an extensive range of panels and roundtables including: 'Human Trafficking: The Labor and Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children'; 'Twenty Years after Beijing: A Cross-National Approach to Feminist Movements and the Implementation of the Platform for Action'; 'Global Sociology and Feminist Perspectives on Care, Care Work and the Struggle for a Careful World'; 'Knowledge Production: Feminist Perspectives in the 21st Century'; 'Gender, Law and the Courts: Local and Global Struggles Against Violence'; 'Intersectionalities of Power in Research: Strategies for Action and Justice'; 'Gender, Culture and Technologies in the Knowledge Economy'; 'Muslim Women's Struggles for a Better World through Promoting Gender Equality'; and 'The Cities We Want: Using Visionary 3 Methodologies to Create Feminist Alternatives to Urban Planning'. My paper was in the

'Precarity and Gender in the Era of Neoliberal Globalization' and I focused on relational precarity as highlighted in the work of Lauren Berlant entitled: 'Gender, Precarity and Sexuality: The Intersection of Gender, Ethnicity, Sexuality and Class in Relational Precarity in Neoliberal Society—the Influence of Lauren Berlant'.

The double badging of sessions with RC32 with other RCs was a really valuable dimension of the conference, this was particularly the case for the RC02 Economy and Society led by the Program Coordinator, Heidi Gottfried, which included some excellent sessions including: 'Gender Regimes or Gendered Institutions' organized by Sylvia Walby. A particularly interesting session was the 'Author Meets Critics: Crisis by Sylvia Walby'. Chaired by Heidi Gottfried and with discussants Stephanie Woehl (Vienna) and Christopher Chase-Dunn (California-Riverside). This proved to be one of the most coherent and intense social and political analyses including the focus on the EU and had anticipated Brexit. Sylvia's response to criticism was powerful and wide-ranging and pointed to the next political crisis being in the EU not the UK. She also calls for a 'regendering of the political project'.

This was a really fascinating conference, serious in its debates and commemorating the work and loss of John Urry.

► **Bula Bhadra** reports on their joint session with RC 09

RC 09 Social Transformations and Sociology of Development was the host committee for the joint session (JS-32) "Gender-Technology Interface: Implications for Social Transformation and Development". Prof. Bula Bhadra, Dept. of Sociology, University of Calcutta with Prof. Habibul Khondkar, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates jointly organized the session on behalf of RC 32 and RC 09 and Prof. Bhadra chaired the session. There were six oral presentations and one Distributed paper. The presentations very successfully articulated the embedded fact that technologies, even the newer ones are not at all gender-neutral. Presentations ranged from Digital Technology and Exclusion of Women, Media Representation and Gendering of Technology, Gendered Digital Inequalities, the Effect of Gender on Social Networks to Digital Constructions of Beauty and Gender-Technology Interface through Body Beautification covering lot of regions confirm to the differences among women make perceptible the multiple positioning that constitutes everyday life and the power relations that are central to any

development or social transformation. In fact, the multiple intersecting sources of subordination/oppression and a transnational character of the differential, contradictory and contested entitlements and burdens of these new technologies were evident through the presentations.

► **Anna-Britt Coe** reports on their joint session with RC 24 and one more:

I had the enormous pleasure of chairing two sessions where all the authors presented interesting and relevant feminist-inspired research on safety, safe urban places and gender.

The first, “Creating Safety for Youth in a Gendered World”, I co-chaired together with Darcie Vandegrift of RC24 Sociology of Youth. This was the second time that Darcie and I organized and chaired a joint session between our two RCs. The session was comprised of four oral presentations: Tamara Drove presented her study of sexual harassment among young women in Chile; Guiomar Merodio and Maria de los Angeles Serrano presented their study of sex trafficking of youth in Spain; Diane Crocker presented her research on rape culture on university campuses in North America; and Beverley Yamamoto presented her research on youth perceptions of sexuality and safety in the UK. In each of the four studies, authors used innovative theoretical frameworks and empirical tools to shed new light on these crucial issues. Oguzcan Karakaya took a few minutes to summarize his distributed paper on fear of crime among high school youth in Turkey. There were about 20 persons in the audience. Unfortunately, we got a late start due to the rain and so we only had time for a few comments at the end.

The second session I chaired was “The Cities We Want: Using Visionary Methodologies to Create Feminist Alternatives to Urban Planning”, which I had organized with Chris Hudson. The session had four oral presentations: Anita Brandon presented an alternative feminist vision of the Smart Cities framework; Chris Hudson presented her feminist visionary research methodology; Sneha Sharma presented her emergent research on feminist activism to re-claim urban spaces in India; and Arturo Alvarado presented his comprehensive research project that seeks to tackle sexual harassment in the urban transportation system in Mexico City. The presentations in this session show the breadth of different approaches possible for infusing feminist alternatives in re-

creating the city. There were about 30 persons in audience. The presenters were very good at keeping time so we had ample time for comments after the presentations and there was a lively discussion.

► **Francesca Alice Vianello** reports on their joint session with RC 38

The joint session between the RC32 “Women in society” and the RC38 “Biography and Society”, organized by prof. Ursula Apitzsch (University of Frankfurt) and Dr. Francesca Alice Vianello (University of Padova) and entitled “Migrant Women's Biographies within the Economic Crisis: Transnationalism As a Coping Strategy Reconsidered” was really successful. The quality of the papers was very high. The national composition of authors and the geographies of the field research presented was really international. The public was numerous and active with questions and comments. The general aim of the session was the analysis through the biographical approach of the new forms of transnational movements and practices carried out by women during the economic crisis. Moreover, we invited both the presenters and the public to discuss the following questions: whether there exist new forms of women migrants’ participation in the civil societies in various countries in the form of transnational spaces; and how the previous forms are changing.

The first paper “Indian Migrant Women's Biographies: Revisiting Transnationalism in South Africa”, by Pragna Rugunanan (University of Johannesburg) drew the attention to a quite unknown South-South migration flow, that of Indian women’s migration to South Africa. The paper explored the reasons for women migration, their choice to migrate specifically to South Africa, and how gender is constitutive to their decision to migrate to a developing economy.

The second paper “Paradoxes of Feminization of Labor Migration in Finland and Italy: An Intersectional Reading”, by Laura Mankki (University of Jyvaskyla) was more focused on the economic crisis in Europe. It highlighted the impact of the recession and austerity policies on migrant women, showing through the analysis of migrants’ stories that the empowering experiences of entering the labor force overlaps with the precarious working conditions they find themselves such as discrimination and exploitation by working in low paid jobs and often in the underground economy.

The third paper “Care Workers in Transnational Polish-German Spaces” by Ina Alber (University of Goettingen) discussed the transnational lives of Polish care workers. The practice of circular migration between Poland and Germany allows many Polish women in economic crisis to earn a living for their families, thereby challenging traditional gender roles, but at the same time they expose themselves to bad working conditions and lose contact to their families at home.

The fourth paper “Transnational Strategies of Education for Social Mobility By Young Migrant Women in Germany” by Anil Al-Rebholz (Okan University), was based on a comparison of two biographical narratives from a young Kurdish woman and a Turkish woman, both living in Germany in the third generation. It showed that the construction of certain forms of belonging is accompanied by corresponding forms of transnational biographical orientation and upward mobility strategy. Moreover, the paper highlighted the potential of migrants' transnational practices and constructions of belonging for contesting and critiquing the limits of the citizenship regimes of nation states.

The fifth paper “Gender and Violence in the Experiences of Central American Women: Migration As a Coping Strategy?”, by Susanne Willers (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico) drove the discussion toward the American continent. It highlighted that neoliberal reforms and economic crisis have a strong impact on Central American post-civil war countries and contribute to increasing violent societies. Gang violence and organized crime affect gender relations in a special way, endangering the lives of women and limiting their working opportunities. Under this conditions, migration becomes one of the most important strategies for social reproduction.

The sixth paper “The Market for Vietnamese Brides: Global Marriages As Strategy Deployments”, by Phung Su (UC Berkeley), examined the market for Vietnamese brides to understand the economic dimensions of increasing transnational connections and commercialized intimacy. By looking specifically at Vietnamese-Korean marriages, the author underlined the new avenues for the exercise of agency within a context of changing global economies.

Finally, the last paper “Más Allá De Las Exclusiones y Resistencias: Experiencias De Monomarentalidad En Mujeres Latinoamericanas En Contexto Migratorio”, by

Macarena Trujillo (Universidad de Playa Ancha), was based on the life histories of South-American single mothers who live in Barcelona and aimed at analysing their strategies of empowerment.

In conclusion, these different but at the same time interconnected papers showed the multiple practices of transnationalism enacted by migrant women during the global economic crisis, that acquires diverse shapes according the socio-political context. The transnational space of migration is the field where migrant women exercise their agency negotiating with several structural constrains.

► **Shweta Adur** and **Bandana Purkayastha** report on their joint session with TG 03

Building on the scholarship on human rights from below, the joint session of RC 32 and TG 03, Gendered Human Rights, Human Dignity, and Intersecting Inequalities—was envisioned and organized by Shweta Adur, Bandana Purkayastha, and Anurekha Chari Wagh to showcase everyday struggles for human rights. Chaired by Shweta Adur, the session showcased the work of six scholars. Evangelia Tastsoglou critically examined gendered IHR protections granted to asylum seekers in EU. Diana Therese Veloso discussed Philippines’s Zamboanga Siege of 2013 and its gendered impact on internally displaced population. Hiromi Makita explained why women’s participation varied between the Water Wars and Gas Wars in Bolivia. Ruthie Ginsburg demonstrated the power of video documentation as an emerging form of activism used by Palestinian women. Alexander Kuteynikov and Anatoly Boyashev’s paper, outlined the process of delivering judgments in the European Court of Human Rights and the concurrent development of global professional groups to facilitate this process. Rashalee Mitchell made a persuasive presentation on the rights of commercial sex workers in Jamaica. The diversity of locations, topics, and groups showcased the ongoing struggles for human rights around the world and led to an equally animated postpresentation discussion. “What do we do? Where do we go from here?” asked members of the audience as they debated the prospects and challenges of the human rights discourse until the big clock at the back of the room (and very kind ISA volunteers) reminded us that it was time to leave. Even as they unhurriedly filtered out, panelists and members of audience continued to talk, walking in step together engrossed in their conversations. As I looked

on, I realized, this session captured the essence of ISA, the coming together of scholars from different parts of the world, for whom, the discussions weren't over just yet!

► **Josephine Beoku-Betts** reports on their joint session with RC 48

This session, Women's Activism in the Most Recent Cycle of Global Protests, was organized as a joint session with RC 48, Social Movements, Collective Actions and Social Change. It addressed the issue of women's mobilizations and social protests in movements demanding political, economic, and social justice in the late 20th and early 21st Centuries. Of particular interest was the activism of women in the Middle East, North and West Africa, Europe and Asia, who became the "leading figures" by playing prominent and pioneering roles through social media and street protests. Issues raised in the presentations addressed the nature and trajectory of women's activism, characteristics, forms and strategies of participation, and outcomes for advancing women's rights and gender equality. Six papers were presented in this panel session. Bandana Purkayastha chaired the panel which was attended by approximately 40 people. The papers were theoretically informed and empirically grounded in current local and global discourses on the issues. Case studies discussed North Kurdistan-Turkey, Spain, Poland, Nigeria, Quebec-Canada, and India. Topics covered the "Bringbackourgirls" Movement in Nigeria; Women in the Spanish Protest Movement; Women's empowerment and political extremism in Poland; Liberation ideology; Dalit Feminist Understandings; the Kurdish Women's Movement; and a comparative analysis of Italian and Quebecois Feminisms in the 1970's. Although there was limited time available to pursue in depth discussion following the presentations, important questions and comments were raised by the audience that broadened our thinking about the gender dimensions of popular uprisings and mobilizations in the late 20th and early 21st Centuries.

► **Peruvemba S. Jaya**, RC 32 Regional Representative from Canada, reports on the participation of Canadian scholars in Vienna:

There was vibrant participation from the Canadian contingent in the Vienna forum. Canadian scholars participated in fourteen sessions, which included a roundtable and the author meets critic session. Sixteen members of the Canadian academy engaged in different sessions in varied roles such as session organizers, chairs, paper presenters

and authors of books being showcased. Among these at least a third were involved in more than one session in multiple roles. The sessions were on a wide range of topics such as Muslims women's struggle for a better world; gender culture and technologies in the knowledge economy; gender and youth; gender and activism including human rights activism in the context of violence against women; women in Latin America and the Caribbean; global gender issues; ethnic, racial and national marginalization and labor; and migrant domestic workers.

► **Akosua Adomako Ampofo** reports the special presidential panel in Vienna:

Special Presidential panel on "Knowledge Production: Feminist Perspectives in the 21st Century organized by Akosua Adomako Ampofo, University of Ghana (who was also the discussant), and Chaired by Josephine Beoku-Betts, Florida Atlantic University, RC 32 Co-presidents.

The following speakers made up the panel:

Margaret Abraham, Hofstra University, USA and Evangelia Tastsoglou, Saint Mary's University, Canada, "Crossing Boundaries, Erasing Margins and (re)Contouring Knowledge Production";

Akosua Darkwah, University of Ghana, Ghana, "Southern Feminist Youths' Contributions to Knowledge Production";

Marcia Segal, Indiana University South East, USA, "Creating Feminist Knowledge and Praxis: Gendered Dilemmas and Contradictions";

Consuelo Corradi, University of Rome, Italy and Maria Carmela Agodi, University of Naples Federico I, Italy, "Women's Voices in Europe: Alternative, Indigenous and Dominant Intellectual Traditions"; and

Bandana Purkayastha, University of Connecticut, USA, "Thinking about Knowledge Categories, Contexts, Voices and Silences".

Marlese Matos, "The Fourth Wave of Latin Americas Feminisms: new pedagogies and epistemic changes from decolonial and Abya Yala

We had about 50 people in attendance and very lively discussions, for which, as is often the case, there was insufficient time. The panel invited presenters to undertake critical feminist reflections of knowledge production that consciously challenges dominant hegemonic discourses and methodologies. Abraham and Tastsoglou provided a survey of the lay of the land: they examined the ISAs history, structure, activities and processes, and used RC32 as a “case study” to consider the ways that ISA both reproduces but also challenges dominant hegemonic discourses and methodologies. This bench marking confirmed the unevenness and hierarchies. Purkayastha problematized the very notion of indigeneity but importantly, both she and Segal located the contemporary validity of the concept in the experience of power imbalances: colonialism, and the erasures and silencing and also co-optation that occurs. Importantly, both Purkayastha and Segal pointed to the power for change that is unearthed by our concepts, questions, and methods; and underscored our responsibilities to share the knowledge from outside the hegemonic spaces and unsettle the hegemonies. This was again reflected in Matos’ paper that reflected on efforts and possibilities for reciprocal learning and responses that can work from the context of Latin America. Agodi and Corradi traced some of the pathways of how we got to this hegemonic space of what constitutes knowledge and science in Europe. Their paper pointed to how even in this context, especially given today’s multi-lingual, multi-cultural, context there are opportunities to benefit us all within feminist knowledge production. Darkwah’s paper provided a unique view of feminist ideas from non-academic spaces, specifically blogs by Ghanaian women on sexuality, partly in response to the self-imposed silences, themselves a response to the voyeurism of Euro-scholars, including white feminists. The diversities of feminist identities are found, of course, not only on the African continent but also globally, reflected profoundly in social media, performance and the other arts. Hence what constitutes knowledge and also broader issues of inequality can be critically examined from diverse these locations.

► **Linda Muzzin** reports on a session she attended:

The session on Gender, Culture & Technologies in the Knowledge Economy (378) organized by Cynthia JOSEPH (Monash University, Australia) was well attended and included five papers on topics that complemented one another, finding various kinds of

marginalization of women in academic science and technology as well as industry, but also possibilities for transformation as well.

The first paper, by Heather LAUBE (University of Michigan-Flint, USA) contrasted the stories of three women with different orientations to the academy, an engineer, a social scientist and a feminist 'insider within', all of which positions held out the promise of change.

The second, by Grit PETSCHICK (TU Berlin, Germany) used Bourdieu to theorize about women in physics and chemistry, introducing the concept of "illusio" to explain the women's engagement in "the game" of excellence in science.

Linda MUZZIN's paper (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, Canada) described how college presidents in Canada also "buy into" discourses of the knowledge economy which they seemed unaware contradicted their feminist equity missions.

Blanka NYKLOVA (Institute of Sociology, Czech Academy) similarly found a continuing lack of consciousness in her study of women as agents of change in academic chemistry. The session rounded off with a paper on women in the food processing industry in India by Wairokpam PREMI (Central University of Gujarat, India) and Thounaojam SOMOKANTA (Centre for Studies in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, India) which revealed that while the women were restricted to particular kinds of work in the industry and exploited, the women themselves were optimistic. These papers stimulated a lively discussion about the gendered nature of professional autonomy in academia and industry,

► **Brigitte Aulenbacher** reports on a session she organized with Encarnación Gutiérrez-Rodríguez, Brigitte Liebig:

Session Title: "Global Sociology and Feminist Perspectives on Care and Care Work and the Struggle for a Careful World"

Care and care work has become one of the most pressing issues of our time. Therefore, the feminist research committees of the Austrian, German and Swiss Sociological Association dedicated their common session to this issue. Research findings from

Austria, Chile, Germany, India, Spain, UK, USA have been presented and discussed in a wide range of topics in the context of gender, race and class: the political economy of care, the welfare state, domestic work, work-life-balance, care and masculinity, surrogacy. Lectures have been given by: Sabrina Schmitt, Gerd Mutz, Birgit Erbe; Deepali Dungdung; Maria Teresa Martin Palomo, Evangelina Olid, Inmaculada Zambrano, Jose Maria Munoz Terron; Rosario Fernandez; Ingrid Mairhuber, Karin Sardadvar; Sylka Scholz, Sophie Ruby; L.M. Anabel Stoeckle. A vivid discussion showed the interest of an audience with more than 40 participants.

► **Evangelia Tastsoglou** reports on their “Authors Meet Critics” session:

This session provided a venue for authors, co-authors or editors to share and highlight the significant contribution of their book with “critics” (i.e. users of their book for research and teaching, reviewers). Monographs, co-authored books, and edited collections published in the English language between July 2014 and June 2016 were eligible for discussion, presentation, and display.

Authors spoke about their work for about 8 minutes, focusing on the major arguments or features of the book, and on some insights or lessons learned in the publication process. Participants were invited to share their experiences about the impact of the book in their research, independent study, or as an adopted textbook. Six books were selected for discussion within the 90 min. of this session. Books not selected for discussion were considered for display.

#### Books

1. Julie Shayne, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer, School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, University of Washington Bothell

*Taking Risks: Feminist Activism and Research in the Americas*

<http://www.sunypress.edu/p-5884-taking-risks.aspx>

*Taking Risks* offers a creative, interdisciplinary approach to narrating the stories of activist scholarship by women. The essays are based on the textual analysis of interviews, oral histories, ethnography, video storytelling, and theater. The contributors come from many disciplinary backgrounds, including theater, history, literature,

sociology, feminist studies, and cultural studies. The topics range from the underground library movement in Cuba, femicide in Juárez, community radio in Venezuela, video archives in Colombia, exiled feminists in Canada, memory activism in Argentina, sex worker activists in Brazil, rural feminists in Nicaragua, to domestic violence organizations for Latina immigrants in Texas. Each essay addresses two themes: telling stories and taking risks. The authors understand women activists across the Americas as storytellers who, along with the authors themselves, work to fill the Latin American and Caribbean studies archives with histories of resistance. In addition to sharing the activists' stories, the contributors weave in discussions of scholarly risk taking to speak to the challenges and importance of elevating the storytellers and their histories.

2. Akosua Adomako Ampofo , Professor, Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana

*Transatlantic Feminisms: Women and Gender Studies in Africa and the Diaspora*, edited by Cheryl R. Rodriguez, Dzodzi Tsikata and Akosua Adomako Ampofo

<https://www.amazon.com/Transatlantic-Feminisms-Gender-Studies-Diaspora/dp/1498507166>

*Transatlantic Feminisms* is an interdisciplinary collection of original feminist research on women's lives in Africa and the African diaspora. Demonstrating the power and value of transcontinental connections and exchanges between feminist thinkers, this unique collection of fifteen essays addresses the need for global perspectives on gender, ethnicity, race and class. Examining diverse topics and questions in contemporary feminist research, the authors describe and analyze women's lives in a host of vibrant, compelling locations. There are essays exploring women's political activism in Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, Santo Domingo, Jamaica and Tanzania. Other essays explore representation and creativity in Brazil, Nigeria, and Miami. While one essay examines African women as conflicted immigrants in France, another recounts the experiences of Haitian women trying to survive in the Dominican Republic. Core themes of the book include the evolution of black feminism; black feminist political leadership; the politics of identity and representation; and struggles for agency and survival. These themes are

interwoven throughout the volume and illuminate different geographic and cultural experiences, yet very similar oppressive forces and forms of resistance.

3. Kyoko Shinozaki, Ph.D., Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies, Osnabrück University

*Migrant Citizenship from Below. Family, Domestic Work, and Social Activism.* (Palgrave Macmillan USA, May 2015).

*Migrant Citizenship from Below* explores the dynamic local and transnational lives of Filipina and Filipino migrant domestic workers living in Schönberg, Germany. Shinozaki examines their irregular migrant citizenship status from 'above', which is produced by complex interactions between Germany's welfare, care, and migration regimes and the Philippines' gendered politics of overseas employment. Despite the predominant representation of these workers as invisible, these spatially immobile migrants maintain sustained transnational engagements through parenting and religious practices. Shinozaki studies the reverse-gendered process of international reproductive labor migration, in which women traveled first and were later joined by men. Despite their structural vulnerability, participant observations and biographical interviews with the migrants demonstrate that they enact and negotiate migrant citizenship in the workplace, transnational households, religious practices and through accessing health provisions.

4. Gul Ozyegin, Associate Professor of Sociology, and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, The College of William and Mary

*New Desires, New Selves: Sex, Love, and Piety Among Turkish Youth* (2015, NYU Press)

*New desires, New Selves* provides a unique investigation of self-making among upwardly-mobile young adults in Turkey through the critical lenses of love and sexuality. Based on 87 in-depth interviews with a diverse group of young Turks in Istanbul who represent the most salient differences based on class origin, religious devotion, and sexual orientation, it links individual biographies with the "biography" of a nation, elaborating their interconnections in the creation of new selves in a country that has existed uneasily between West and East, modern and traditional, secular and Islamic. For these young people, sexuality, gender expression, and intimate

relationships in particular serve as key sites for reproducing and challenging patriarchy and paternalism. As New desires, *New Selves* evocatively shows, the quest for sexual freedom and escape from patriarchal constructions of selfless femininity and protective masculinity promise both personal transformations and profound sexual guilt and anxiety.

5. Maria Kontos, Institute of Social Research, Frankfurt Main, Germany, and Glenda Bonifacio, University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

*Migrant Domestic Workers and Family Life. International Perspectives*, 2015.

This timely and innovative book delivers a comprehensive analysis of the non-recognition of the right to a family life of migrant live-in domestic and care workers in Argentina, Canada, Germany, Italy, Lebanon, Norway, the Philippines, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, and Ukraine. Combining legal, sociological and social policy perspectives, it takes an interdisciplinary approach to international and national legal frameworks, the political economy of globalised reproductive labour, and the experience and coping strategies of migrant domestic and care workers. Highlighting constructed, ideological and imagined responses to life away from home, it offers theoretical, empirical and international perspectives on the right to a family life. Bringing together established and emerging scholars from a variety of academic disciplines, it focuses in particular on the voices of migrant domestic workers and their positioning as active subjects with agency to articulate their needs and claims.

6. Evangelia Tastsoglou, Saint Mary's University, Canada, and Margaret Abraham, Hofstra University, USA

*Interrogating Gender, Violence, and the State in National and Transnational Contexts* (Sage Monograph series in *Current Sociology*): In this monograph issue, we interrogate the complex interconnections between gender, violence, and the state, where violence refers specifically to violence against women (VAW), and, more broadly, gender based violence. We examine the role of the state in addressing sexual violence, and domestic or intimate-partner violence (IPV) in globalized neoliberal societies around the world. We consider the role of the state to be dualistic, as both an agent of justice, and as an

instrument of domination and oppression, particularly in regard to the implications for policies and practices aimed at addressing the problem of violence against women. As states intervene in order to reduce, terminate or even entrench the extreme form of gender oppression that violence against women constitutes, i.e. as states try to regulate VAW, they attempt to regulate gender itself. States are often complicit in violence against women. Because of their regulatory role with respect to VAW, we consider the state as being one of the structures implicated in (re)producing violence. Moreover, state intervention intersects with other social structures and social divisions, including, but not limited to, class, race, gender, citizenship, and immigration status. Nevertheless, the relationship of the state to violence against women is complicated, historical, and context contingent, resulting in multiple implications for women's lives, including barriers to citizenship. We argue that the global problem of gender and intersectional violence takes different forms in different historical contexts, and local, national, and transnational spheres. In this issue we hope to uncover not only the limitations, but also the possibilities of the forms of state involvement used in addressing violence against women.

While our focus is on the relationship of gender, violence, and the state at the national level, in selected country-specific cases around the world, we also examine this relationship at the transnational level, both in terms of the influence of states beyond their borders, and in terms of transnational influences on state policies. For example, mobilization by women's movements, non-governmental associations, media attention, United Nations resolutions and programs, and the appointment of the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women have all increased general governmental awareness and support for policies addressing violence against women, including sexual and domestic violence against women within states and globally. In addition, at both the regional and international level, various European Union Directives, reports, campaigns, and programs, aimed at reducing gender inequality and VAW, have played a similar role in raising awareness and support. Invoking the power of the state in seeking solutions, however, has come with its own set of problems in terms of framing the issue of violence against women and developing policies and practices to address it.

► **Melanie Heath** reports on their roundtable session:

Melanie Heath, McMaster University, Canada and Anita Dash, Ravenshaw University, India co-organized Roundtables on Gender Issues Across the Globe. There were five roundtables that presented on a range of topics concerning global gender issues, including gendered rights, migration and racial/ethnic identities, sexualities, and family and work. All of the roundtables were well attended and offered lively discussions based on 28 papers in total.

## *A Tribute to Cynthia Joseph*

**Remembering CYNTHIA JOSEPH (ISA-RC32 President Elect 2014-2018)**

By: Margaret Abraham, President, International Sociological Association

*"I am fortunate to have been part of RC32/ISA since 2006!"*

(From: Cynthia Joseph [cynthia.joseph@monash.edu](mailto:cynthia.joseph@monash.edu), Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2016 8:15 AM To: Margaret Abraham)

It was just two months ago that Cynthia Joseph and I communicated. We were going to meet during my visit to Melbourne in December 2016. It's hard to believe that she will not be there and that we will not get to talk about RC32, ISA or go down memory lane about sociology, education, the importance of diversity, family, friends or her discovery of a love for modern art on a trip to Spain!

As we mourn the untimely demise of a dear colleague and friend, ISA RC32 President Elect (2014-2018), and President (2018-2022,) Cynthia Joseph, we can celebrate her life as a scholar and as an active member of ISA RC 32 who was always willing to be a part of the team, contribute and collaborate in building a strong and inclusive ISA- RC32. Through ISA-RC32 we can share her legacy.



I got to know Cynthia Joseph in 2006 in Durban when she joined the International Sociological Association - Research Committee on Women in Society (ISA-RC 32). I asked her if she would consider standing for RC32 regional representative and she kindly agreed. Over the years Cynthia represented RC 32 in several capacities as elected Regional Representative Board Member, Newsletter Editor and President Elect (2014-2018). We shared research interests in the areas of social justice, gender, ethnicity, and migration. I was particularly interested in

Cynthia's work on theories and practice of identity, gender, ethnicity, and difference in education. Her work also provided a nuanced explanation of the multi causal factors that contribute to inequality issues in education, while offering valuable alternatives in addressing education, especially given the complexities that define and redefine

ethnicity and politics within multiethnic societies. Readers got important sociological insights on the processes and outcomes that Malay-Muslim, Chinese and Indian girls experience within and beyond the school system in contemporary Malaysia. The cultural and structural barriers were well articulated, as were the implications of positionalities based on the intersections of gender and ethnicity. Cynthia offered valuable alternatives in addressing education, given the complexities that define and redefine ethnicity and politics within multiethnic societies. Her work makes an important contribution to the fields of Ethnic/Cultural Politics, Social Stratification and Social Inequality, Gender Studies and the Sociology of Education. Her scholarship also contributes in important ways to both Post-Colonial Studies and South East Asian Studies. Cynthia had published in various journals including *Race, Ethnicity and Education*, *Pedagogy, Culture and Society*, *the Journal of Intercultural Studies* and *Current Sociology*. I used her work in my course on Public Sociology. Two of her recent book publications include: *Growing up female in multi-ethnic Malaysia* by Cynthia Joseph (Routledge 2014) and *Equity, Opportunity and Education in Postcolonial Southeast Asia* edited by Cynthia Joseph and Julie Matthews (Routledge 2014).

Cynthia Joseph was an exemplary RC32 board member. She played a key leadership role in RC 32 by contributing through her research, organizing meetings, presenting at conferences, building institutional capacity and by encouraging collaboration among researchers at the national, regional, and international levels and was highly respected by the membership. She presented at the World Congress in Durban in 2006. She co-organized with Evie Tastsoglou, a panel sponsored by RC32 on “Migrant Women in the Global Economy: Labor, Identities and Diasporas” at the Women’s World 2008: The 10th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women held in Madrid, Spain in July 2008. This panel was well attended and Cynthia’s paper was very well received. She also presented at the ISA World Forum in Barcelona, Spain in September 2008. Clearly, Cynthia made a very valuable contribution as a regional representative and newsletter editor on the ISA-RC32 Board. She was active in organizing in 2010 world Congress in Gothenburg and participated and organized session for RC32 in 2014 World Congress in Yokohama, Japan. I remember how very happy she was at the outcome of the ISA 2014 elections. Always generous and thoughtful, Cynthia’s active participation helped promote RC32’s work, particularly in addressing social injustices and gender inequality, building research partnerships, and





promoting research, activism, and policies concerning women's rights throughout the world.

On a more personal note, I enjoyed working with Cynthia Joseph. She had a strong work ethic and gave generously of her time to colleagues and friends. Even when times were tough and this year a bit rough, she tried to stay strong, still tried and maintain some work especially in relation to her research

student supervision and publications. She was very close to her mother and mentioned how immensely grateful she was for the unconditional love and care that she received from her mother. Cynthia deeply appreciated her family, a group of church friends, the parish priest and friends over the years who continued to be supportive and caring. Cynthia's untimely demise will be a loss for ISA – RC32 and Monash University, to her friend and family. She will be missed by her family and friends but her legacy will continue. While I am very sad that I will not get to see Cynthia on my upcoming visit to Melbourne nor see Cynthia Joseph lead RC32 as ISA RC 32 President for 2018-2022, I am however grateful that I was able to let her know how much she meant to RC32 in my response to her email by saying:

*"Yes I remember 2006 and also your work for the RC32 from then. Thank you. We are proud of what you have done."* (email: From: Margaret Abraham Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2016 8:55 AM To: Cynthia Joseph Subject)

**Remembering CYNTHIA JOSEPH (ISA-RC32 President Elect 2014-2018)**

By: Evangelia Tastsoglou, International Sociological Association Executive Committee and Research Coordinating Committee Member



## News from the Regions

■ ■ *Peruvemba S. Jaya, our Regional Representative from Canada, urges RC32 members to read about and reflect on the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girl* ■ ■

*Here is her note:*

The most significant and recent development which we have been waiting for and is heartening is the independent inquiry into murdered and missing indigenous women and girls. The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls is independent from the federal government.

In Canada, all forms of violence against women are experienced by a higher proportion of indigenous women and girls. Even though indigenous women form 4 per cent of Canada's female population, 16 per cent of all women murdered in Canada between 1980 and 2012 were indigenous.

The figures and statistics are staggering. Amnesty International's 2004 report brought this issue into international spotlight. The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) began the Sisters in Spirit initiative and in 2010; the NWAC's report mentioned 582 missing and murdered indigenous women and girls all across Canada. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in 2014 however provided a much higher figure of 1181 missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

Various underlying causes such as socio economic factors like poverty, homelessness and deep rooted issues like sexism racism and the history of colonialism and the impacts of the residential school system have been uncovered by numerous studies.

On December 8, 2015, the Government of Canada announced the launch of an inquiry to seek recommendations on concrete actions to address and prevent violence against indigenous women and girls. On August 3, 2016 the inquiry commission was set up comprised of five commissioners with a mandate to report by the end of 2018, with an interim report in the Fall of 2017. This was due to the tireless efforts by various indigenous activists for many years. We in Canada hope this will be the beginning of a process for providing justice for the silent and silenced indigenous women of Canada.

# Call for Papers



## Book Chapter

**Call for Proposals: *Advances in Gender Research***

**Deadline for Chapter Submission: 15 November 2016**

*Advances in Gender Research* is a book series edited by Vasilikie Demos and Marcia Texler Segal published by Emerald Publishing with worldwide authorship and readership. We typically publish two volumes of original chapters based on one or a collection of related themes each year; some volumes are guest-edited.

For 2017 we have one volume that has places for additional chapters and are seeking about six manuscripts of up to 9,000 words including tables and references that are ready or nearly ready for publication. The chapters we have focus on the contributions of the late Sandra Bem to the study of gender. In addition to further discussions of Bem's work, suitable companion chapters might focus on:

- the contributions of other pioneers to gender studies,
- the history of the social science study of gender in general or in a particular country or region,
- the study of gender in a particular subgroup such as children and youth or;
- contrasting ways of conceptualizing gender.

Additional suggestions, including suggestions for a second theme for the volume are also welcome. Those wishing to explore the possibilities should contact the series editors.

**Draft papers for consideration should be sent no later than November 15, 2016.**

**All papers must be in Word documents and in English. Please send your draft to [v.demos.agr@gmail.com](mailto:v.demos.agr@gmail.com) [mtsegal.agr@gmail.com](mailto:mtsegal.agr@gmail.com) and [kohlmanm@kenyon.edu](mailto:kohlmanm@kenyon.edu).**

## Members' News



RC32 members have been very productive in 2016. Here is what some of our members have been up to (listed in alphabetical order):

**Josephine Beoku-Betts**, from Florida Atlantic University was the keynote speaker for CEGENSA conference at the University of Ghana-Legon on September 30, 2016. The title of her talk was: “Women, Science, and Higher Education in Ghana: Challenges, Outcomes, and Possibilities.”



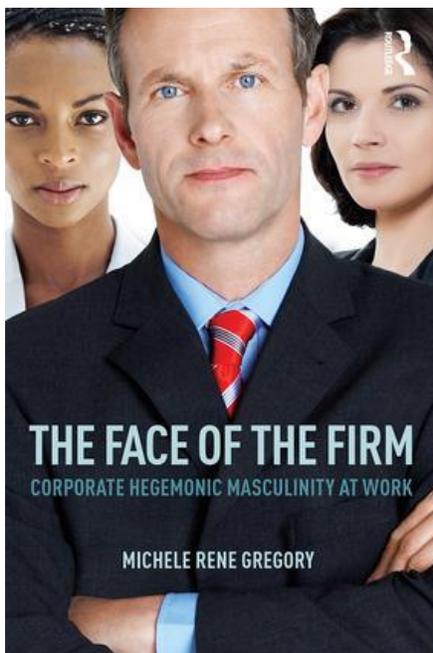
She also presented an invited paper at the International Forum on Development Policies in Madrid, Spain, which was held on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2016. The theme of the conference was: “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Construction of Inclusive Societies: The Fight Against Inequality.” The title of her presentation was: “Education, Gender Inequality and Power in Sub-Saharan Africa.”

**Bula Bhadra**, from University of Calcutta, has three new publications:

1. "Unequal Exchange: A Tale of Surrogacy and Indian Women's Health" in *Health System Strengthening: Country Experiences* (eds.), R.K. Mishra, P. Geeta and P. Garimella (New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2016), pp. 259-283.
2. "Recent Rape Law Reforms in India: Catalyst to Gender Justice or Modernization in Legal reform?" (ed.) S. Shahidullah, *Crime, Criminal Justice, and the Evolving Science of Criminology in South Asia: India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh* (London, UK. Palgrave and Macmillan, 2016, Forthcoming).
3. "Surrogacy and Surrogates in India through the Lenses of Intersectionality", in *Essays in Honour of Professor I.P. Modi*, (ed.) B.K. Nagla and Vinay K. Srivastava (Jaipur: Rawat, Forthcoming).

**Michele Rene Gregory**, from York College of the City University of New York, has a new book: *The Face of the Firm: Corporate Hegemonic Masculinity at Work* (2016)

<https://www.routledge.com/products/9781138189003>



Despite decades of greater gender awareness at work in Western countries, gender inequality in the executive suites is alive and well. "The Face of the Firm" highlights new critical perspectives on the relationship between hegemonic masculine cultures, gender embodiment, and gender disparities in corporate organizations. Using data from over 100 interviews with female and male executives who worked for some of the most prestigious advertising and computer firms in the world, the book makes important connections between the empirical data and contemporary sexism in the United States and United Kingdom. The book refocuses the debate of executive work, organizational spaces, and gender inequality on gendered bodies at work. It also demonstrates that gendered and sexualized relations among executives often construct the production process. The book

makes a contribution to masculinity, gender, and work scholarship and is organized along three key concepts: homogeneity, homosociability, and heterosexuality. These address such factors as the organizational locker room, sexual and heterosexual spaces at work, and the construction of women and men as different workers. This conceptual model is crucial for evaluating the mechanisms that support male dominance among highly skilled professionals and executives."

**Jeff Hearn** has been awarded (in May 2016) an honorary doctorate from Lund University, Faculty of Social Sciences, for his work on critical studies on men and masculinities, men's violence against women and children, patriarchy, power relations and inequality. He also has a new book:

*Men's Stories for a Change: Ageing Men Remember*, with Randy Barber, Vic Blake, Jeff Hearn, David Jackson, Richard Johnson, Zbyszek Luczynski, and Dan McEwan (The Older Men's Memory Work Group), Common Ground, Champaign, Ill., 2016.

**Liisa Husu**, from Örebro University, Sweden, has been appointed to the Scientific Advisory Board of the new association of European Women Rectors, EWORA, [www.ewora.org](http://www.ewora.org). European Women Rectors Association (EWORA) is a full-fledged International Non-Profit association established in Brussels under Belgian Law in December 2015 to promote the role of women in leadership positions in the academic sector and to advocate gender equality in higher education and research at European and international scales. EWORA is the continuation of European Women Rectors Platform (EWRP), which has been active since 2008 in organizing biennial European Women Rectors Conferences. EWORA is established to develop strategies for increasing women at decision making levels in higher education and research. EWORA is committed to provide opportunity for women rectors to share their experiences to improve the situation of women academics and to remove the barriers for horizontal and vertical segregation in academia.

**Evanglina Tastsoglou** and **Margaret Abraham** are guest editors of the special issue of *Current Sociology*: "Interrogating Gender, Violence, and the State in National and Transnational Contexts."

<http://csi.sagepub.com/content/current>

This issue contains the following articles:

- Margaret Abraham and Evangelia Tastsoglou: Interrogating gender, violence, and the state in national and transnational contexts: Framing the issues
- Denise Buiten and Kammila Naidoo: Framing the problem of rape in South Africa: Gender, race, class and state histories
- Jeff Hearn, Sofia Strid, Liisa Husu, and Mieke Verloo: Interrogating violence against women and state violence policy: Gendered intersectionalities and the quality of policy in The Netherlands, Sweden and the UK
- Margaret Abraham and Evangelia Tastsoglou: Addressing domestic violence in Canada and the United States: The uneasy co-habitation of women and the state
- Shannon Drysdale Walsh and Cecilia Menjívar: Impunity and multisided violence in the lives of Latin American women: El Salvador in comparative perspective
- Mangala Subramaniam and Preethi Krishnan: Stranded between the law, family, and society: Women in domestic violence and rulings of India's Supreme Court
- Muta Kazue: The 'comfort women' issue and the embedded culture of sexual violence in contemporary Japan
- Khedija Arfaoui and Valentine M Moghadam: Violence against women and Tunisian feminism: Advocacy, policy, and politics in an Arab context
- Josephine Beoku-Betts: Holding African states to task on gender and violence: Domesticating UNSCR 1325 in the Sierra Leone National Action Plan
- Consuelo Corradi and Heidi Stöckl: The lessons of history: The role of the nation-states and the EU in fighting violence against women in 10 European countries