

# The AGORA

Newsletter of the Rationality and Society Section of the American Sociological Association and the Research Committee on Rational Choice of the International Sociological Association

Summer 2013



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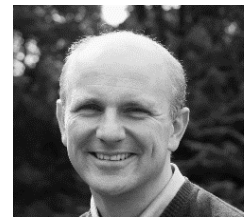
[sites.google.com/site/rationalityandsocietysection/home](http://sites.google.com/site/rationalityandsocietysection/home)

## From the Chair's Desk

Rafael Wittek

Dear colleagues,

The ASA meeting is approaching, and I would like to update you on the many events of our section: our pre-conference, a panel discussion, a regular session, two section sessions, our business meeting and a joint reception. See the summary information below. Please mark these events in your calendar and spread the word! I am looking forward to meeting you in New York!



The ASA annual meeting will be held in New York City from August 10 to 13, 2013. Our section has the following events (in time order).

### 1. Preconference on "Advances in Rational Choice Social Research"

Date: Friday, August 9, 2013

Time: 9 am to 5 p.m.

Place: Hilton New York Midtown- Sutton South

Our preconference takes place in a day before the ASA meeting. We have 14 exciting presentations on five topics (see attachment): (1) Signaling Theory and

Applications; (2) Micro Motives: Goals and Preferences; (3) Macro Outcomes: Hierarchy and Stratification; (4) Tie Formation; and (5) Institutions. We have a great mix of senior and junior speakers from different continents, and an amazing set of substantive topics.

2. Joint Reception of Section on Rationality and Society; Section on Evolution, Biology and Society; and Section on Mathematical Sociology  
 Date: Saturday, August 10, 2013  
 Time: 6:30 to 8:30 pm

3. Regular Session on Rational Choice  
 Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2013  
 Time: 8:30 to 10:10 am

Session Organizer and Presider: Pamela E. Oliver (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

1 Cyclic Dynamics in Social Dilemmas: An Experiment with Intergroup Mobility

\*Jun Kobayashi (Seikei University)

2 Generating Social Solidarity: Some Preliminary Evidence

\*Yue Liu (University of South Carolina)

3 Power in Coercive Structures

\*Pamela E. Emanuelson (North Dakota State University), David Willer (University of South Carolina)

4 Public Goods in Networks with Asymmetric Information about Preferences and Degree

\*Jacob Dijkstra (University of Groningen), Marcel Van Assen

Discussant: Pamela E. Oliver (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

4. Section Session 1: Homo Economicus Revisited  
 Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2013  
 Time: 10:30 to 12:10 am

Session Organizer: Andreas Flache (University of Groningen)

1 Exploring Social Value Orientations in Coalitions: Are Prosocials Really More Collectively Oriented than Proselfs?

\*Danielle Lewis (University of South Carolina)

2 Individual Heterogeneity and Costly Punishment: A Volunteer's Dilemma

\*Wojtek Przepiorka (University of Oxford), Andreas Diekmann (ETH Zurich)

3 The Effect of Perceived Intentions on Direct Reciprocity and Future Generosity

\*Matthew Hoffberg (Cornell University)

4. Trust as Signal: A Theory of Strategic Initiation of Trust Relations

\*Lin Tao (Chinese University-Hong Kong), Tony Tam (Academia Sinica and Chinese University-Hong Kong)

Discussant: Christopher Winship (Harvard University)

5. Section Session 2: Why Institutions Fail  
 Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2013  
 Time: 12:30 am to 2:10 pm

Session Organizer: Rafael Wittek (University of Groningen)

1 From Influence to Power: The Path Through Chiefdoms to the Emergence of the State

\*David Willer (University of South Carolina), Yamilette Chacon (University of South Carolina), Pamela E. Emanuelson (North Dakota State University), Danielle Lewis (University of South Carolina)

2 The Impact of Institutional Change on Economic Inequality in Cuba

\*Davide Barrera (University of Turin), Sara Romanó (University of Turin)

3 The Logic of Relative Frustration. Boudon's Competition Model and Experimental Evidence

\*Joël Berger (ETH Zurich)

#### 4 Endogenous Institutional Change

\*Daniel Joseph Della Posta (Cornell University),  
Victor Nee (Cornell University), Sonja Opper (Lund  
University)

#### 6. Panel Discussion on "New Sociology of Choice"

Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Time: 2:30 to 3:30 pm

Session Organizer: Rafael Wittek (University of  
Groningen)

Panelists: Ronald S. Burt (University of Chicago)  
Siegwart Lindenberg (University of Groningen)  
Andreas Diekmann (ETH Zurich)

Abstract: During this 1 hour invited session, some of the leading scholars will discuss the opportunities and challenges arising from the current advances in behavioral theories. How should sociology deal with the many new insights on human cognitions and emotions as they are generated in neighboring disciplines like the cognitive neurosciences? What are the implications of these findings for our sociological models of structure, agency and institutions?

#### 7. Business Meeting

Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Time: 3:30 to 4:10 pm

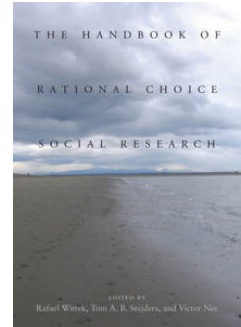
We will announce the winners of the Best Paper Award for faculty and for students during the business meeting.

#### Member's New Book: The Handbook of Rational Choice Social Research

Edited by Rafael Wittek, Tom A. B. Snijders, and Victor Nee, Stanford University Press

The Handbook of Rational Choice Social Research

offers the first comprehensive overview of how the rational choice paradigm can inform empirical research within the social sciences. This landmark collection highlights successful empirical applications across a broad array of disciplines, including sociology, political science, economics, history, and psychology.



Taking on issues ranging from financial markets and terrorism to immigration, race relations, and emotions, and a huge variety of other phenomena, rational choice proves a useful tool for theory-driven social research. Each chapter uses a rational choice framework to elaborate on testable hypotheses and then apply this to empirical research, including experimental research, survey studies, ethnographies, and historical investigations. Useful to students and scholars across the social sciences, this handbook will reinvigorate discussions about the utility and versatility of the rational choice approach, its key assumptions, and tools.

#### Member Portrait: Masayuki Kanai

Masayuki Kanai is a professor of sociology at Senshu University, Japan. His research interests are in social stratification and social capital. Currently he works on how public policy supports family formation based on survey data.



He is also a member of local organizing committee of the 18th ISA World Congress of Sociology held in the next summer in Yokohama, Japan. He wishes to see all of you at the nice and comfortable venue in the beautiful harbor city!



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**XVIII ISA WORLD CONGRESS  
OF SOCIOLOGY**

FACING AN UNEQUAL WORLD:  
CHALLENGES FOR GLOBAL SOCIOLOGY

13-19 July 2014



Call (again): World Congress in Yokohama 2014  
(due September 30)

The next world congress of ISA will be held in 2014 as follows. President Hanno Scholtz proposed the following nine sessions for RC 45 (organizers in parentheses). See <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/rc/rc.php?n=RC45>. Do not miss this great opportunity to exchange your ideas!

Name: ISA World Congress of Sociology

Date: July 13-19, 2014

Venue: Pacifico Yokohama, Yokohama, Japan

Application deadline: September 30, 2013

- 1 Attitudes and Rationality (Antonio M. Jaime Castillo)
- 2/3 Current Research in Rational Choice Theory Part 1/2 (Hanno Scholtz)
- 4 Institutional Change in Times of Crisis: Rational Choices in Historical Sociology (Hanno Scholtz)
- 5 Intimate Relations (Jun Kobayashi)
- 6 Rational Action and Trust (Antonio M. Chiesi)
- 7 Rational Choice and Network Dynamics (Masayuki Kanai)
- 8 Relationalism, Rationality, and Embedded Institutions (Kazuto Misumi)
- 9 Social Capital and Rational Choice Theory (Yoshimichi Sato, Rafael Wittek)

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Member Portrait: Jun Naito

Jun Naito is an Assistant Professor at the Graduate School of Humanities at Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan. He has studied the theoretical structure of freedom and responsibility in social life. His paper won the 2008



Biennial Best Paper Award of the Japanese Association for Mathematical Sociology.

Now he is interested in empirical implications of distribution and inequality of socioeconomic resources. For this purpose, he conducted a survey this year to investigate how people can rely on their networks when they really need help.

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Editors' note

This issue highlights the coming ASA meeting in New York. Chair Raffael coordinated diverse and fascinating events during it. See you in NYC! Also, the deadline for ISA world congress is approaching (end of September). Find your suitable session and apply for it now! (Jun)



Jane Sell  
j-sell@tamu.edu



Jun Kobayashi  
jun.kobayashi@fh.seikei.ac.jp

**Advances in Rational Choice Social Research**

**Preconference of the Rationality and Society Section**

**108<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
American Sociological Association**

**New York City  
August 9, 2013**

## PROGRAM

<b>Date:</b>	August 9, 2013
<b>Time:</b>	9:00am-5:00pm
<b>Location:</b>	Hilton New York Midtown - Sutton South
<b>Organizer:</b>	Rafael Wittek, Department of Sociology/ICS University of Groningen (r.p.m.wittek@rug.nl)

Time	Presenter	Title
08:45-09:00	<b>Welcome</b>	
	<b>Signaling: Theory and Applications</b>	
09:00-09:25	1 Paik, Anthony	Strategic Embedding as a Signal
09:25-09:50	2 Przepiorka, Wojtek	Choosing a Trustworthy Partner: Charitable Giving as a Signal of Trustworthiness in Experimental Trust games
09:50-10:15	3 Mamada, Robert	An Analysis of the Process of Becoming a Professional Manga Artist in Japan. An Approach from Game Theory
10:15-10:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
10:30-10:55	4 Mäs, Michael	The Competitive Advantage of Signaling Institutions. Results from a Laboratory Experiment
10:55-11:20	5 Okada, Sosuke	Intrinsic Benefit Model of Cultural Signaling
11:20-11:45	6 Kimura, Kunihiro	Can the Signaling Game Serve as a Model of Statistical Discrimination?
11:45-12:45	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
	<b>Micro Motives: Goals and Preferences</b>	
12:45-13:10	7 Siegwart Lindenberg	Moral Hypocrisy: Explanation and Experimental Evidence
13:10-13:35	8 Kowalewski, Thomas	Leadership from the Inside Out: A Field Study of Personal Growth Trainings, Core Self-Evaluations and Charismatic Leadership
13:35-13:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>	

Time	Presenter	Title
	<b>Macro Outcomes: Hierarchy and Stratification</b>	
13:45-14:10	9 Sato, Yoshimichi	Rational Choice in the Creation of Social Stratification
14:10-14:35	10 Andre Grow	When do they Cherish Merit? Status and Perceived Dependence in Work Teams
14:35-14:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
	<hr/> <b>Tie Formation</b> <hr/>	
14:45-15:10	11 Kobayashi, Jun	Romance to Marriage Transition: A Rational Choice Analysis
15:10-15:35	12 Muñoz-Herrera, Manuel	Heterogeneous Network Games: An Experiment on Conflicting Preferences
15:35-15:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
	<hr/> <b>Institutions</b> <hr/>	
15:45-16:10	13 Kamada, Takuma	The Impacts of Medical Marijuana Laws on Drug Addicts and Crime: Rational Choice Theory and Empirical Evidence from the U.S.
16:10-16:35	14 Sakurai, Yoshio	A Geopolitical Framework Theory on "Culture II" in the Peaceful Societies that have no Kings. "Rational" Choice Theory modified with Miss-match Theory of Bio-Darwinism
16:35-17:00	<b>Concluding Discussion</b>	