



History of
Sociology

Newsletter - December 2019

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Letter from the President

Dear colleagues and friends,

Porto Alegre, next July: there are three good reasons to go the 1V Forum:

1 - The general theme of the Forum is: *Challenges of the 21st Century: Democracy, Environment, Inequalities, Intersectionality*. As we know, we can't understand the present and the future if we don't know our past. As historians of sociology, it is our duty to be there!

2 - Brazil is a country where sociology has been a very important and dynamic discipline during the past few decades. To go there gives us the opportunity to discover this great country if you don't already know it, to meet an active and inventive community of sociologists, and to give them the support they need since the election of a new president. It also gives us the possibility to meet our colleagues from other Latin American countries, of whom there will be many in Porto Alegre.

3 - It will be the first time our RC has participated in an ISA Forum. Our tradition has been to organise our interim symposium independently, with the objective of organising a smaller conference, and giving our members the opportunity to have more time to present and discuss the results of their research and develop a strong international network in the history of sociology based



on friendship. I think with the next Forum it will be possible to pursue this objective in a context which helps us to build links between our RC and other RC's, such as social Theory, Social Movements, Sociology of Health etc. —A great challenge!



Wishing you Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year,

Marcel Fournier
President
Montreal, December 2, 2019

Brazil 2020 - NOTE FROM THE LOCAL ORGANISER



Dear members of the Research Committee of the History of Sociology:

The ISA 2020 Forum is coming soon and it is important to update all RC-08 members on what is scheduled for our meeting – which will take place from 14th to 18th July in Porto Alegre – but starting on the 13th with pre-conference activities.

Firstly, it is important to explain the reasons why we decided to join the Porto Alegre Forum instead of holding the meeting in an independent location – which is the tradition of RC-08. To hold the interim conference in an independent venue would have required two fundamental things that we did not have: a team to organise and welcome everyone at the venue, and financial resources to fund activities and guests. In addition, the group reflected collectively on the need for further integration with ISA in order to increase our visibility and even to obtain funding for RC-08 members to come. Importantly, almost all the RCs are integrated into the Forum that takes place every four years.



Secondly, by joining the Forum it became necessary to adapt our initial programming to the ISA Forum rules. This meant limiting the number of sessions to the number of members of each RC. In the case of RC-08, as this number is around 100 members, we could organise up to 12 sessions - as shown on the ISA website - with one dedicated to the Business Meeting. Then, we held the call so that RC-08 members could volunteer to organise sessions – and we received 16 subscribers to organise 11 sessions (more information about the sessions will be sent in a few days).

Thirdly, it is important to remember that we had originally suggested the theme of 'internationalisation' or 'international circulation', which eventually guided many of the session proposals made by members. On the other hand, sessions unrelated to this topic were also proposed, such as 'women and the history of sociology', 'theory and methods' or 'institutions, organisations and social thinking'. Finally, we decided to change the title of one session to 'open session' to include work that did not fit in any other session, but which had been highly rated by the session organisers.



Fourthly, it is important to note that we obtained a much larger than expected number of communication proposals in all sessions: a total of 116 entries distributed across the 11 sessions proposed. Some reasons may be given for the abundance of communication proposals, but possibly the fact that RC-08 joined the Forum raised the group's visibility and, as it was allowed up to two entries in the event, the number of entries doubled compared to the pattern of isolated encounters. In order to minimise the number of proposals excluded, we decided to accept five oral

proposals per session (the Forum's duration of 90 minutes) and one to four 'distributed papers' – to be provided in hard copy – which may eventually be included as oral presentations if one of the session participants abstains. Unfortunately, it was still necessary to reject around 50% of the proposals sent to the RC-08 – mainly because of the framing of the session theme and not because of the quality of the work.

Fifthly, we were informed that ISA makes available to each RC the possibility to carry out various activities on the day before the official start of the event – called pre-conference – which will be on July 13th. The RC-08 is organising a round table with three guests to discuss the theme of the reception of Pierre Bourdieu's work in three different countries.

Sixthly, it is important to report that RC-08 and RC-35 organised a joint session called 'How is Society Possible? Relational and Processual Sociology after Simmel'. This session could be organised because it was proposed by RC-35 and therefore counted in the number of sessions allowed to RC-35. It will be allocated outside of scheduled RC-08 session times for all interested parties to attend.

We are very excited about the opportunity to join the Porto Alegre Forum. We believe that there will be an increase in the circulation of members from other RCs in our sessions, as well as RC-08 members in other sessions. While, on the one hand, the



idea behind the isolated meetings was to promote greater integration among group members, it seems that more group frequency in the Forums will lead to increased visibility and membership of RC-08 – and will therefore highlight the central place that the ‘history of sociology’ occupies or should occupy in debates and research in our area.

Marcia Consolim

RC08 Local Organiser
Porto Alegre
ISA Forum 2020

THE RETIREMENT OF CHRISTIAN FLECK

Unbelievable but true, Christian Fleck retired on the 1st of October 2019. Those who know him are convinced that he is not going to stop pursuing his manifold academic activities. Nevertheless, this formal status passage is a brilliant opportunity to thank Christian for his tremendous commitment and contribution to sociology. I am happy to be able to write these sentences as a colleague at the Department of Sociology of the University of Graz, which has greatly benefited from his various contributions over the last decades.

With regard to his multifaceted research interests, history of sociology has been particularly important, as the audience of this newsletter knows very well. Multiple of his books, papers, and research projects dealt with the history of sociology in general, and the history of sociology in Austria specifically. Significant contributions focused on the life and works of scholars who had to flee Austria during the Nazi period, among them Marie Jahoda and Paul Lazarsfeld. He paid special attention to processes of emigration and resettlement, as well as the influence of institutions, which helped these expelled scholars to resume their careers.

In addition, inspired by his broad sociological interests, Christian led many research projects on a variety of topics, including, for example, xenophobia, unemployment, or the role of public intellectuals. He also contributed to the discipline of sociology through writing and editing multiple handbooks. Among others, he also served as section editor

for the section on 'History of the Social and Behavioral Sciences' in the 2nd edition of the *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*.

In 1987, he co-founded the *Archive for the History of Sociology in Austria*, a unique institution dedicated to the systematic documentation of the discipline. Of his professional activities, his service as secretary, vice-president and president of the *Research Committee on the History of Sociology of the International Sociological Association (ISA)* certainly has to be mentioned, as does his presidency of the *Austrian Sociological Association* (2005-2009).

Research stays and guest professorships led him to different universities (e.g. Harvard University, University of Minnesota, University of California Berkeley, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales Paris, Higher School of Economics Moscow).

Doing all this, Christian has always shown a strong interest in the wider public (which he also expressed through regular contributions to newspapers and participation in public debates in Austria). His interest in the public might be illustrated best sharing an example from everyday life at our department. As a matter of fact, Christian's door was *always* open. This fact speaks volumes about his commitment to promoting and teaching sociology. One could not only (literally) observe him doing his work as a public intellectual, he was also always ready to listen to all kinds of questions and problems. This included inquiries of younger colleagues who often felt encouraged after visits to his office. Several of his students have started an academic career, which proves his capabilities as a teacher and mentor. In recognition of his extraordinary commitment to supporting PhD students, the University of Graz has also awarded him the Seraphine Puchleitner Preis.

'Do we really need that? A Few Remarks on the Abolishment of Sociology' - that is the title of one of the first papers listed on Christian's website, which was published in the *Austrian Journal for Sociology* in 1980 (in the German original: 'Was brauch ma des? - Einige Betrachtungen zur Abschaffung der Soziologie'). I think, over the last decades, Christian has proven extensively what we need sociology for and how we should act as sociologists. Thank you, Christian, for inspiring so many people!

Katharina Scherke

University of Graz



MEMBER'S NOTICES

HANDBOOK ON THE CIRCULATION OF ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE

Call for contributions

Decades of historical and sociological research have taught us some simple lessons: academic knowledge is a human artefact, it results from social and collective practices, and it is always produced in a specific place and at a particular time. Understanding and explaining the circulation of academic knowledge therefore has to pay careful attention to communication processes, in the broad sense of the term.

Although the study of the circulation of scholars, books, theories and concepts is not new, in the 1990s social scientists became interested in studying the circulation of data, practices, images, technologies, discourses and values, to the extent that the word 'circulation' has become a catchword for all kinds of transfers. How and why does knowledge circulate? How can we objectify the fact that knowledge circulates? How does the legitimacy of knowledge change when it circulates? Who has and who does not have access to it, and how does access shape circulation? These are major questions that guide our understanding of the cultural and political nature of science, social sciences and technology. It is this understanding that has been useful for cutting across regional and disciplinary boundaries. However, circulation is under-theorised in almost all disciplines, although empirical efforts have been made to describe and explain specific cases of circulation and, less frequently, some comparisons have been attempted. A systematic approach to the many theoretical, methodological and disciplinary ways of understanding circulation is still missing. This handbook aims to fill the gap. It will explicitly focus on academic knowledge, its historicity and also on the ways in which it relates to other spaces, actors and types of knowledge.

Why is circulation of knowledge a topic that requires scholarly attention? First, the long-term impact of globalisation has been shaping knowledge institutions, processes and actors. Specifically, globalisation has made it necessary to surpass traditional boundaries created by modern perceptions of the world, from the nation state to national styles of science. However, it is not clear how the different levels (from local to transnational) (re)produce conditions for circulation, or how these levels intersect. Second, circulation is not a straightforward process where what is produced in one place can easily flow elsewhere. As soon as circulation comes under the spotlight, it becomes clear that uneven economic, social, cultural, technological, scholarly and power relations are always present and provide asymmetrical conditions for knowledge circulation. Third, academic studies on circulation have depended on a diverse array of philosophical assumptions, methodologies, theoretical and disciplinary frameworks, which often hinder the possibility for dialogue and prevent deeper understanding of the phenomenon. An understanding of the main differences and similarities between approaches, including between natural and social sciences, and their suitability for answering particular research questions, is still missing from the literature.

Despite the growing interest in the subject among social scientists, we still lack a thorough and systematic analysis of the circulation of knowledge. The handbook aims to foster and give visibility to this emerging field of research, bringing together different epistemic communities with regard to conceptual and methodological approaches, languages of publication, geographical areas and topics studied. The intention is to cover: all disciplinary perspectives that problematise what knowledge circulation is; the paths, media and agents of circulation that exist and how they work; the structures, institutions and processes of circulation; the directions (and speed) of circulation, and critical understanding of the phenomenon.

The following list aims to provide potential contributors with a range of possible topics, problems and approaches related to circulation of academic knowledge. It is not exhaustive and authors can contribute on other aspects. We encourage authors to link or contrast several of the topics/problems.

1. **Core ideas, process concepts:** translation, localisation, negotiation, cooperation, diffusion, transmission, communication, reception, appropriation, standardisation, interpretation, selective adoption, mixing, hybridisation, consecration, recognition, legitimation, validation, inter-/transnationalisation, globalisation, glocalisation, inter-/transdisciplinarity
2. **Spaces and actors of circulation:** individual agency, career building and career strategies, publication strategies, co-authorships; brokers, experts; public institutions, laboratories, museums, archives; political organisations, international organisations, think tanks, political party foundations, civil society organisations, consultancy, NGOs, social movements, trade unions, associations; cultural production (arts, literature, music, film); mobilities (of scholars, students), migration, exile, diasporas, expeditions, journeys, meetings, conferences, handbooks, self-reflexivity
3. **Circulating texts and theories:** circulating texts, theories, concepts, programmes, models; styles of academic scholarship, canons, classics, scientific schools and their paradigms, ideology
4. **Media of circulation:** printing, transport, information and communication technologies, digitalisation, journals, books, encyclopaedia, publishing industry, newspapers, social media, big data, catalogues and bibliographies, databases, collections, language, teaching, curriculum and textbooks/readers, academic theses, socialisation of new generations of scholars, capacity building
5. **Academic/extra-academic knowledge:** audiences, exchange, confrontation, resistance and opposition to circulating academic knowledge, public understanding of science, expertisation of science, popularisation, democratisation
6. **Political economy of knowledge circulation:** institutionalisation of science, science policy, university systems, research cooperation, rankings, evaluations, funding, materialities, economic use (commodification, patents, intellectual property rights), branding and agenda setting
7. **History, geography and geopolitics:** scales (local, global, national, regional, inter-/transnational), geographies of reading and writing, centres and peripheries, asymmetries, power, South-North relations, diffusion of western science, entanglement, dis/connection, science and empire, indigenisation, endogenisation, islamisation, decoloniality, post-colonialism, Eurocentrism, universalism, domination, imperialism, hegemony, counter-hegemony, social



8. stratification and inequality, class, race/ethnicity, gender, academic authority/hierarchy, identity politics, religion, access and visibility, invisibilisation/marginalisation/silencing, censorship
9. **Methodological approaches to studying circulation of academic knowledge:** bibliometrics, prosopography, textual analysis, reception studies, hermeneutics, discourse analysis, use of metaphors, history of concepts, microhistory, network analysis, actor-network theory, boundary/subordinating objects, ethnography, participant observation, biographic approaches and life histories

Instructions for authors

1. This is an international endeavour and we encourage participation of authors from various disciplines and all the regions of the world. Multiple authorship is desirable.
2. In view of the intended purpose of the handbook to serve as a sourcebook to newcomers to the field, the different chapters should cover the state-of-the-art of the issue being dealt with. They should include short case studies or other empirical evidence as a means of illustration. They can suggest future directions of research. Contributions should be clear, concise and comprehensive. Technical jargon should be avoided whenever possible, as this publication is aimed at undergraduate and postgraduate students and professionals from various disciplines interested in applying knowledge of the topic of circulation in their respective fields.
3. Chapters should be up to 10,000 words, including references. We expect contributions in correct English.
4. At this stage we would like to invite you to submit a 300-500 words abstract as well as a short bio note (200 words) for potential chapters. Given the main theme of the book, consideration will be given to abstracts making clear the link between the topic they propose to explore and the circulation of academic knowledge.
5. If we receive two or more good abstracts dealing with the same or similar topics, we will encourage the authors to join forces and work together in producing a single co-authored chapter.
6. Both abstracts and complete chapters will be peer-reviewed by the editorial committee according to a two-step process.

Deadlines: Abstracts should be submitted by 31st March 2020 to wiebke.keim@misha.fr and leandro.rodriquez@udlap.mx

We expect to come back to authors by 30 July 2020. A first draft of the chapters will be expected by 31st March 2021. Submission to a global publisher is expected by October 2021.

Editorial committee: Rigas Arvanitis (IRD), Natacha Bacolla (CONICET/Universidad Nacional de Rosario/Universidad Nacional del Litoral), Chandni Basu (IDSK Kolkata), Fernanda Beigel (CONICET), Magdalena Hadjiisky (Université de Strasbourg), Wiebke Keim (SAGE/CNRS), Stefan Klein (Universidade de Brasília), Mauricio Nieto Olarte (Universidad de los Andes), Barbara Riedel (Universität Freiburg), Leandro Rodríguez Medina (UDLAP), Clara Ruvituso (Freie Universität Berlin), Gernot Saalman (Universität Freiburg), Tobias Schlechtriemen (Universität Freiburg), Hebe Vessuri (CENDES, Emeritus).



OTHER NOTICES

Kerstin Hesselgren visiting professorship: The Swedish Research Council has decided that **Professor Sujata Patel** at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, will be the holder of the 2021 Kerstin Hesselgren visiting professorship. Congratulations Sujata!

Nicole Holzhauser wishes to inform RC08 members that a new section 'History of Sociology' (Soziologiegeschichte) was founded within the *German Sociological Association* (DGS - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie) in September 2019. So far, there had not been one. Speakers were Stephan Moebius (University of Graz, Austria), and vice speaker Nicole Holzhauser (University of Braunschweig, Germany). We look forward to opportunities for international networking and cooperation.

In the course of our efforts concerning institutionalisation, a three-volume handbook on the history of sociology in German-speaking countries (Handbuch Geschichte der deutschsprachigen Soziologie) has been published by editors Stephan Moebius and Andrea Ploder. Here is the link:

<https://soziologiegeschichte.wordpress.com/handbuch/>

Stephan kindly asked me to add another publication to the list, which is: Lothar Peter (2019): 'Marx on Campus: A Short History of the Marburg School'
<https://brill.com/view/title/34476>

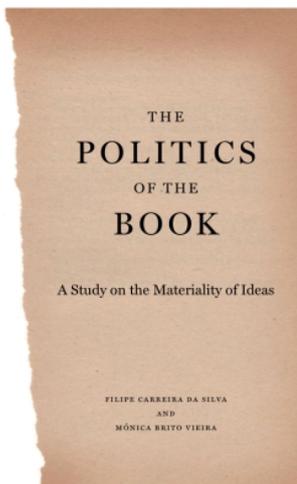
If you need more information or have any questions, please get in touch with Nicole.

MEMBER'S PUBLICATIONS

Filipe Carreira da Silva and Mónica Brito Vieira

- Silva, F.C. and M.B. Vieira. *The Politics of the Book. A Study on the Materiality of Ideas*. University Park: Penn State University Press, 2019.

<http://www.psupress.org/books/titles/978-0-271-08342-1.html>



It is impossible to separate the content of a book from its form. In this study, Filipe Carreira da Silva and Mónica Brito Vieira expand our understanding of the history of social and political scholarship by examining how the entirety of a book mediates and constitutes meaning in ways that affect its substance, appropriation, and reception over time.

Examining the evolving form of classic works of social and political thought, including W.E.B. Du Bois's *The Souls of Black Folk*, G.H. Mead's *Mind, Self, and Society*, and Karl Marx's 1844 *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts*, Carreira da Silva and Brito Vieira show that making these books involved many hands. They explore what publishers, editors, translators, and commentators accomplish by offering the reading public new versions of the works under consideration, examine debates about

the intended meaning of the works and discussions over their present relevance, and elucidate the various ways in which content and material form are interwoven. In doing so, Carreira da Silva and Brito Vieira characterize the editorial process as a meaning-producing action involving both collaboration and an ongoing battle for the importance of the book form to a work's disciplinary belonging, ideological positioning, and political significance.

Theoretically sophisticated and thoroughly researched, *The Politics of the Book* radically changes our understanding of what doing social and political theory—and its history—implies. It will be welcomed by scholars of book history, the history of social and political thought, and social and political theory.



Sujata Patel:

Book:

Sujata Patel (ed) *Exploring sociabilities of contemporary India. New Perspectives* (ed.) Orient Blackswan.

<https://www.orientblackswan.com/details?id=9789352878475>

Book chapters:

'Introduction. Indian Sociology's past-present and its present-futures' in S. Patel (ed) *Exploring Sociabilities of Contemporary India. New Perspectives*, Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 1-24

<https://www.orientblackswan.com/details?id=9789352878475>

'Sociology in India. The epistemes of colonial modernity and methodological nationalism' in S. Patel (ed) *Exploring Sociabilities of Contemporary India. New Perspectives*. Delhi: Orient Blackswan 25-

50. <https://www.orientblackswan.com/details?id=9789352878475>



Jiri Subrt

Charles University
Department of Historical Sociology

Mitteleuropa denken: Intellektuelle, Identitäten und Ideen

Der Kulturraum Mitteleuropa im 20. und 21. Jahrhundert

[Thinking Central Europe: Intellectuals, Identities, and Ideas – The Cultural Space of Central Europe in the 20th and 21st Century]

Edited by Pape, Walter and Šubrt, Jiří

In the 20th and 21st centuries, the cultural space of Central Europe and the concepts of national, societal, (trans-)cultural, and personal identity continue to be understood by politicians, sociologists, philosophers, writers, and literary scholars as shaped by "hybrid border crossers." The volume aims at taking stock and at the same time evaluating the Central European contribution to contemporary European culture.





Individualism, Holism and the Central Dilemma of Sociological Theory

Jiří Šubrt

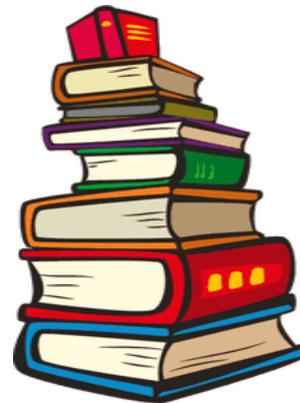
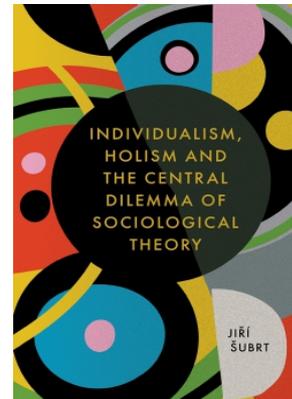
Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic
Emerald Publishing 2019

Individualism and holism, the concepts embedded in the title of this book, represent two key theoretical perspectives that have for many decades steered and shaped sociological thought. For over a century these two interpretative perspectives have also divided sociological theory into two camps, accompanied by a band of scholars trying to bridge this dualism.

According to American sociologist Jeffrey C. Alexander, individualist theories derive their appeal and strength from their underlying assumption that humans make decisions as individual, free, autonomous, and rationally and morally consistent beings. A related belief is that they are able to express these qualities in their actions regardless of the situation in society or what economic or moral conditions prevail.

Holistic, or collectivist, theories, unlike individualism, assign primacy to social entities. This perspective is important because it creates the basic precondition through which entities can become the subject of deliberate sociological analysis. However, there is a price for fulfilling this precondition. The emphasis it places on the collective, and on larger entities, logically means that the individual will and free human decision-making tends to be lost from the field of view.

This book argues that these two perspectives, individualist and holistic, form the central dilemma of sociological thought. It provides an extensive review and critique of contemporary sociological approaches to this antinomy and examines attempts that have been made to overcome it and unite them. Moreover, the book proposes a new approach to solving this dilemma via the concept of 'critical reconfigurationism', arguing that the resolution of this dilemma is vital not just for sociological theory but also for empirical social research.



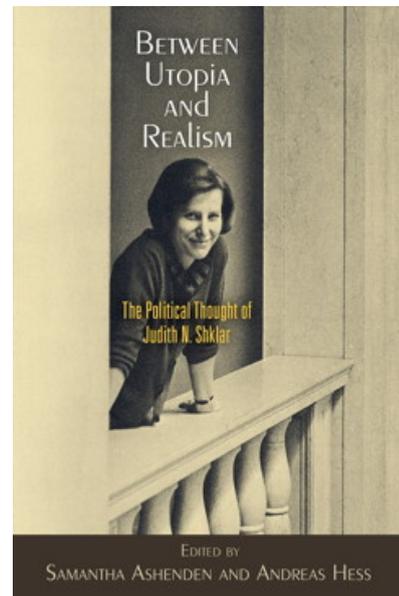


Between Utopia and Realism
The Political Thought of Judith N. Shklar
Edited by Samantha Ashenden and Andreas Hess
University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019

A volume in the [Haney Foundation Series](#)

"Editors Samantha Ashenden and Andreas Hess are ideally suited to producing this outstanding collection on such a wide-ranging thinker as Judith Shklar. The essays, authored by an impressive roster of scholars, reflect Shklar's capacious range, spanning political and legal theory, history, and international relations."—William Outhwaite, Newcastle University.

"*Between Utopia and Realism* provides fresh insight into Judith Shklar's enduring relevance for various fields—from political thought to legal theory to human rights. It is an instant classic that will reshape the reception of Shklar in history, politics, philosophy, and literature for years to come."—Eileen Hunt Botting, University of Notre Dame.



Between Utopia and Realism showcases Shklar's approach to addressing the intractable problems of social life. Her finely honed political scepticism emphasised the importance of diagnosing problems over proffering excessively optimistic solutions. As this collection makes clear, her thought continues to be useful in addressing cruelty, limiting injustice, and combating the cynicism of the present moment.

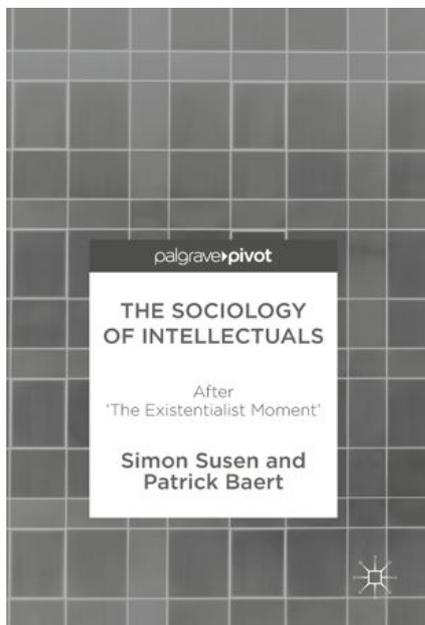
Contributors: Samantha Ashenden, Hannes Bajohr, James Brown, Katrina Forrester, Volker M. Heins, Andreas Hess, Samuel Moyn, Thomas Osborne, William E. Scheuerman, Quentin Skinner, Philip Spencer, Tracy B. Strong, Kamila Stullerova, Bernard Yack.

Samantha Ashenden is Senior Lecturer in Politics at Birkbeck College, University of London.

Andreas Hess is Professor of Sociology at University College Dublin.



Simon Susen, University of London.



Simon Susen (2019) 'No Escape from the Technosystem?' *Philosophy & Social Criticism* Online First, pp. 1–49.

Simon Susen (2019) 'The Resonance of Resonance: Critical Theory as a Sociology of World-Relations?' *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*, Online First, pp. 1–36.

Simon Susen (2018) 'The Economy of Enrichment: Towards a New Form of Capitalism?' *Berlin Journal of Critical Theory* 2(2), pp. 5–98.

Romand Coles and Simon Susen (2018) 'The Pragmatic Vision of Visionary Pragmatism: The Challenge of Radical Democracy in a Neoliberal World Order' *Contemporary Political Theory* 17(2), pp. 250–262.

Simon Susen (2018) 'The Seductive Force of "Noumenal Power": A New Path (or Impasse) for Critical Theory?' *Journal of Political Power* 11(1), pp. 4–45.

Simon Susen (2018) 'Justification' in George Ritzer and Chris Rojek (eds.) *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*, 2nd Edition, Chichester: John Wiley and Sons, pp. 1–3.

Simon Susen (2018) 'Jürgen Habermas: Between Democratic Deliberation and Deliberative Democracy' in Ruth Wodak and Bernhard Forchtner (eds) *The Routledge Handbook of Language and Politics* London: Routledge, pp. 43–66.

Simon Susen (2018) 'Saussure, Ferdinand de' in Bryan S. Turner, Chang Kyung-Sup, Cynthia F. Epstein, Peter Kivisto, William Outhwaite, and J. Michael Ryan (eds.) *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social Theory* Volume V, Chichester: John Wiley and Sons, pp. 2001–2006.

Simon Susen (2018) 'Language', in Bryan S. Turner, Chang Kyung-Sup, Cynthia F. Epstein, Peter Kivisto, William Outhwaite, and J. Michael Ryan (eds.) *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social Theory* Volume III, Chichester: John Wiley and Sons, pp. 1278–1290.

Luc Boltanski, Juliette Rennes, and Simon Susen (2018 [2010/2014]) 'Die Zerbrechlichkeit der Realität – Luc Boltanski im Gespräch mit Juliette Rennes und Simon Susen', translated by Christian Scheper, *diskurs*, 2, pp. 1–20.

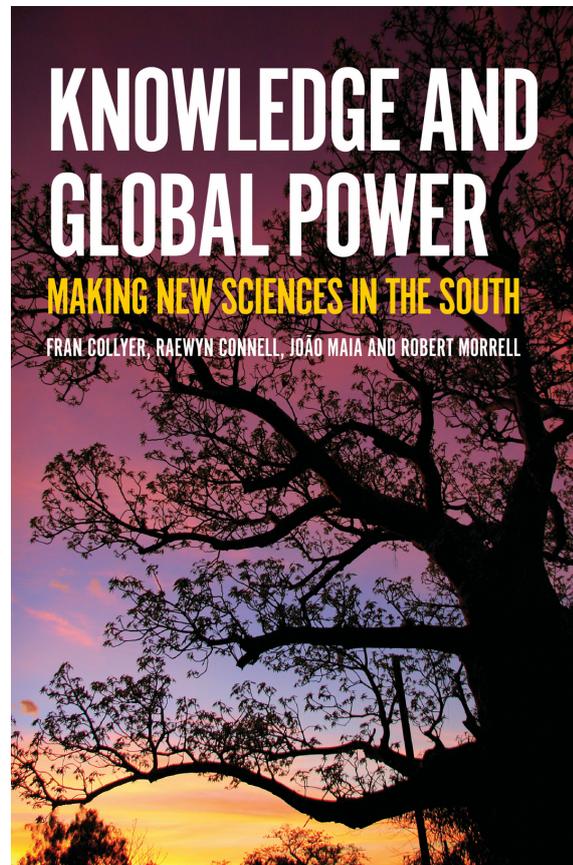


Knowledge and Global Power Making New Sciences in the South

Fran Collyer, Raewyn Connell, João Maia and Robert Morrell

2019 Monash University Press and WitsPress

Knowledge and Global Power breaks new ground by casting a sharp light on the imaginative work of researchers in the Global South under conditions that still reflect the asymmetries of power in relation to the Global North. Too much of the accounting for research in developing countries is still stuck in colonial legacies and neo-colonial dependency. What is much needed in studies on the global research enterprise is rich descriptions of subaltern scholarship that deepens our understanding of the politics of knowledge and gives a sense of hope that dissolves unhelpful binaries about an all-powerful north and a powerless south. This book is a must-read for students in the sociology and politics of knowledge — Jonathan Jansen, Distinguished Professor of Education, University of Stellenbosch.



Knowledge and Global Power is a ground-breaking international study which examines how knowledge is produced, distributed and validated globally. The former imperial nations – the rich countries of Europe and North America – still have a hegemonic position in the global knowledge economy. Fran Collyer, Raewyn Connell, João Maia and Robert Morrell, using interviews, databases and fieldwork, show how intellectual workers respond in three Southern tier countries, Brazil, South Africa and Australia. The study focusses on new, socially and politically important research fields: HIV/AIDS, climate change and gender studies. The research demonstrates emphatically that ‘place matters’, shaping research, scholarship and knowledge itself. But it also shows that knowledge workers in the global South have room to move, setting agendas and forming local knowledge.



About the authors:

Fran Collyer is Associate Professor at the University of Sydney. Her recent books include *Mapping the Sociology of Health and Medicine*, for which she won the *Stephen Crook Memorial Award* for the best Australian monograph 2014, and the *Palgrave Handbook of Social Theory in Health, Illness and Medicine*.

Raewyn Connell is Professor Emerita at the University of Sydney and is one of Australia's leading social scientists. Her recent books are *Southern Theory; Gender: In World Perspective* (with Rebecca Pearse); and *El género en serio: Cambio global, vida personal, luchas sociales*.

João Maia teaches in the School of Social Sciences (CPDOC) at Fundação Getulio Vargas, Rio de Janeiro. He researches the history of social sciences, Brazilian social thought and sociological theory in the global South.

Robert Morrell is an historian working in research development at the University of Cape Town. His books include *From Boys to Gentlemen: Settler Masculinity in Colonial Natal* and *Africa-Centred Knowledges: Crossing Fields and Worlds* (edited with Brenda Cooper).