



Agriculture and Food

The E-Newsletter of the ISA Research Committee on Agriculture and Food (RC40)

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From the President

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President, RC40

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The final match of the 2018 World Cup will end the first day of the ISA World Congress in Toronto. While it may sound funny to be thinking about the World Cup in the context of RC40, I want to ask you to bear with me, there is a point to this story (beyond the sociological point that we live in a world of multiplicities). This year, I was particularly intrigued by the approach used by IFOAM (the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements) to keep the World Cup relevant for Organic. They matched up the teams, not according to the traditional stats, but according to how they stand in Organic terms, for example: “Japan has the biggest domestic organic market in the world (€1 billion) – but will they be the winners today against Senegal (who has over 18,000 organic farmers)?” and “Iceland’s share of organic land grew by 132% last year! vs. 6% of Croatia’s agricultural land is organic”.

This approach to changing the way that an event is framed, and particularly what is being valued and measured, is a key topic of the RC40 meetings this month. We will start out the July meetings with the first pre-Congress RC40 Summer School, sponsored and organized by Cornell University, INRA and the University of Toronto. This year’s theme is “Metrics of sustainability: Critical studies of sites, practices, and performances of accountability in environmental governance”. The fifteen papers, presented by junior scholars, focus on how specific metrics tell us different stories about what is being measured, how that measurement can tell us about what is being valued, and who is accountable for delivering those values. The theme of this summer school is picked up in a joint session organized with RC23 (Sociology of Science and Technology) and RC24 (Environment and Society) where RC40 scholars will engage across these thematic areas to discuss the metrics and standards that frame the tensions and synergies of the biological and land-based nature of farming (inputs to agriculture) and the negative implications of agriculture for water, biodiversity, and climate (outputs of agriculture).

The questions of what values have been promoted to date will be picked up in the sessions on “Techno-Politics in Agriculture and Food Under (and After?) Capitalism”, “Food Regime Analysis in an Asian Context”, “Neoliberal Agriculture and Distressed Peasants” and “Agriculture Justice: A New Frontier of Collective and Intersectional Battle”. Each of these sessions will deal with a particular framing of ‘value’ (mostly the capitalist and neoliberal ones) in our current agri-food systems. In these sessions, scholars will explore what these

particular ways of framing food and agriculture – as techno-capitalist solutions or neoliberal policies – tell us about the people who produce food and agriculture products, those who govern these agri-food systems and the values that they hold dear. For example, what happens when justice is the value used to organize an agri-food system rather than ‘fast development and growth’ used in India that will be discussed?

This summer we will also have a series of aspirational sessions – focusing on what some of those values are that we want to see in agri-food systems around the world. The sessions on “Food Sovereignty and Land Grabbing” will draw our scholarly attention on ‘every people's right to own land, to cultivate and distribute local produce’. The sessions on “The Role and Significance of Geographical Indication As a Tool for the Development and Democratization of Agri-Food” bring to our attention the values of origin, ‘local spaces and practices’ and how revaluing food in these ways can democratize agri-food systems. Finally, a series of sessions on ‘Prosumers and Social Innovation in Alternative Food Networks’ will introduce some of the alternative visions – particularly about the role of consumers in agri-food systems – that are actively re-valuing what it means to act in a food system.

When we begin to ask these more difficult questions about what values are driving and being realized – in how we farm, fish, graze, transport, process, organize and eat – we can begin to see where power, violence and justice are intersecting. Seeing is the first step of reflection, for without putting social phenomena into terms that enable us to see what we are valuing it is difficult to respond and take responsibility for our actions. In this summer's World Congress, I think that we will have more than enough insightful presentations to begin this collective process.

Thus, I end this, my last address to you as RC40 President, on a hopeful note. The values that are being promoted by World leaders and communicated through social media and the press have changed drastically since 2014. However, our community has also been growing and the questions that we are asking about how to value food and agriculture in society are even more relevant now as societies are beginning to close borders and reduce their international trade. RC40 members have a chance to ‘reframe’ the debate about agriculture and food, and to contribute to a ‘revalorization’ that goes hand-in-hand with the alternative agri-food movements that we have traditionally studied. Now is the time not just to speak up, but to act – to ensure that we can accompany those movements that are trying to build or rebuild agri-food systems that value justice, democracy, diversity and more equitable visions of agri-food systems. I have full confidence that the new leadership of RC40 will continue to lead us on this journey – through greater engagement in our world regions and across generations – and I am honored to have had the chance to contribute to furthering this vision, even if only in a small way.



RC40 Activities Report for 2014 – 2018

Prepared by Allison Marie Loconto

This report summarizes the key activities and achievements carried out by the RC40 Executive Committee during the 2014 – 2018 Mandate and provides information about the Membership and Budget dynamics during this period. The following sections present our activities as a scholarly collective and are organized according to the different components of the RC40 mandate.

1. Governance of the RC

1.1. Names of the outgoing Executive Committee Members

President: Allison LOCONTO (INRA, France)

Secretary: Maki HATANAKA (Sam Houston State University, USA)

Executive Committee:

Bishnu Charan BARIK (Sambalpur University, India)

Hilde BJORKHAUG (Ruralis, Norwegian Institute for Rural and Regional Research, Norway)

Josefa Salete Barbosa CAVALCANTI (Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil)

Steven WOLF (Cornell University, USA)

Carmen BAIN (Iowa State University, USA)

Marie-Christine RENARD (Chapingo University, Mexico)

1.2. 2018 Board elections and Results

The elections for the upcoming 2018-2022 RC40 leadership mandate were held between 21 – 27 March 2018. We had a voter turnout rate of 58% (60/104 registered members) and the results were as follows:

President: Steven WOLF (USA)

Secretary/Treasurer: Hilde BJØRKHAUG (Norway)

Executive Committee

Michael CAROLAN (USA)

Angga DWIARTAMA (Indonesia)

Katharine LEGUN (New Zealand)

Angol NASWEM (Nigeria)

Allison LOCONTO (France) (ex-President)

Maki HATANAKA (USA) (ex-Secretary/Treasurer)

We are happy to report that our incoming Executive Committee is gender balanced and we have added a new geographic region to the EC (Africa).

1.3. New Regional Representatives and expanded network

During the RC40 Business meeting in Toronto in 2016, the membership agreed to renewing and expanding the RC40 Regional Representatives network. Steven Wolf facilitated this process from the EC and each of the sitting Regional Representatives organized within the region to identify and nominate a new representative to replace them. Two new regions added in 2017: Africa and Middle East.

The current regional representatives are as follows:

Australia/New Zealand: Katharine LEGUN (University of Otago, New Zealand)

Africa: Adolphus NASWEM (Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Nigeria)

East Asia: Mima NISHIYAMA (Utsunomiya University, Japan)

Latin America: Paulo NIEDERLE (Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil)

Middle East: Zulkuf AYDIN (Middle East Technical University, Turkey)

North America: André MAGNAN (University of Regina, Canada)

Northern Europe: Tuija MONONEN (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

South Asia: Verma SMITA (Isabella Thoburn post-graduate College, India)

Southern Europe: Guadalupe RAMOS-TRUCHERO (University of Valladolid, Spain)

We also elaborated a Terms of Reference for the new group of Regional Representatives. These are as follows:

RC-40 Regional Representatives Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference (TOR) serve to structure the governance and function of the network of Regional Representatives. The expectation is that these TORs will be updated in future years based on lessons learned. We explicitly recognize differences across regions, and we make no effort to advance a specific model for how to organize regional programming. There are many different ways to be successful and to contribute to RC-40. In this sense, the activities identified below should be understood as examples and not specific requirements.

Mission

Regional Representatives are charged with facilitating and animating activities at the regional level that advance the development and application of agrifood sociology. These regional activities should aim to add value to RC40 membership by supporting intellectual exchange and professional development of members. These activities should also aim to attract new members to RC40.

Governance

Regional Representatives are appointed by the Board. Appointments will be for a 3 year term, and appointments can be renewed one time. When an appointment comes to an end, or the Board has reason to replace a Regional Representative, nominations will be solicited from active members in the region. The Board may also make nominations. The Board will select new Representatives from the pool of nominees.

The Board will convene an annual conference call with all Regional Representatives to exchange information, discuss the structure and function of the network of Regional Representatives, and develop ideas as to how the Board and the Regional Representatives can support one another more effectively.

Regional Representatives are invited by the President to make brief reports and to propose new initiatives during RC-40 Business meetings. Regional Representatives are invited by the Secretary to post announcements and to contribute to the RC-40 newsletter.

Regional Representatives are required to submit activity reports during the final year of their terms to the Secretary. These reports will serve to document lessons learned and allow future Regional Representatives to benefit from accumulated experience.

Activities (understood as examples)

- Take a leadership role in recruiting new members and they work with the RC-40 Secretary to maintain the RC-40 membership list for their region. Note that RC-40 members can affiliate with multiple regions, as the geographies of people's biographies, institutional affiliations, and scholarly interest are recognized as plural. Regional Representatives are expected to be inclusive and solicit participation of all RC-40 members who express interest in regional communications and activities.
- Liaise with regional and national scholarly associations in their region to promote the activities of RC-40
- Organizing RC-40 sessions or mini-conferences at relevant meetings in their regions
- Provide updates in the RC-40 newsletter and to the RC-40 listserve regarding activities, debates, jobs, etc. in their region
- Organize special issues of IJSAF with articles from their region or on themes of relevance to their region & promote IJSAF
- Promote activities that enhance communication and intellectual exchange within and across regions on relevant topics

Given that some of our regional representatives have become part of the Executive Committee for the 2018-2022 mandate, we will need to replace them. The current practice is based on convention, and as such the outgoing Regional Reps should nominate their replacement.

We might want to revisit the RC40 Statutes regarding regional representatives and determine how – and if – we want to formalize this role.

1.4. Membership

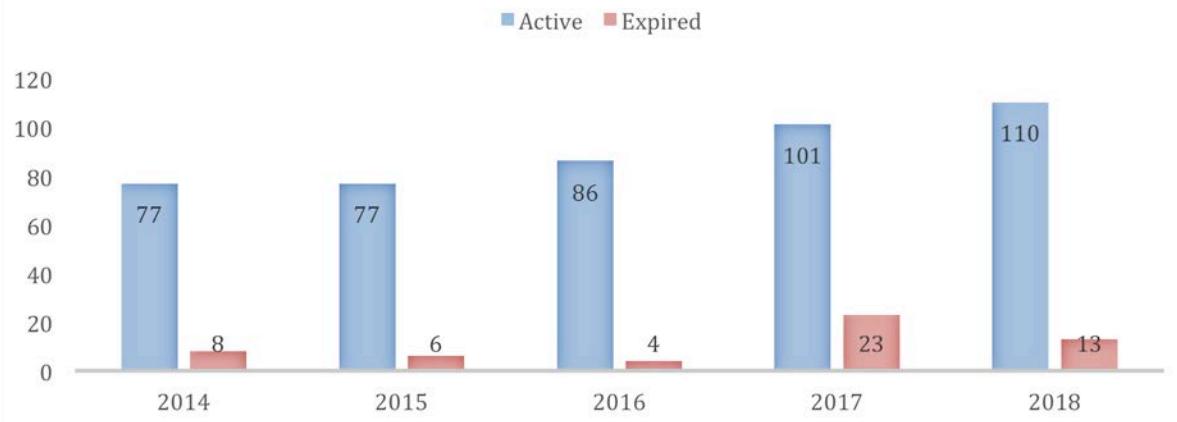
Between 2014 and 2018 we saw an expansion of the RC (Figure 1). This is very good news as we have surpassed the 100-member mark, which places us in a higher category within the ISA group of RCs. What this means is that we will now be allowed 18 sessions in the next World Congress (Melbourne, Australia 2022) and a greater amount of money for any ISA grants that we apply for.

It seems that we have a retention issue, where a number of our members (22%) let their membership expire at the end of 2017 and have yet to renew. This is most likely due to their non-participation in the 2018 ISA World Congress. Looking at the trend, this number of non-renewals in the inter-term years seems to be lower, but we should remain vigilant about the 13 members whose membership will expire at the end of 2018.

We seem to be doing well in recruitment and the biggest increase in recruitment came following the 2016 mid-term meetings in Vienna (ISA Forum) and Toronto (IRSA). We should take the opportunity of our regional and international meetings to increase our recruitment.

Figure 1

MEMBERSHIP DYNAMICS



In terms of geographic balance, we are also increasing our membership in a number of countries that were not previously present (Figure 2). Overall, the Asia-Pacific-Oceania region remains that most well represented in the RC40 (Figure 3).

Figure 2

ACTIVE AS OF JULY 2018 (N=110)

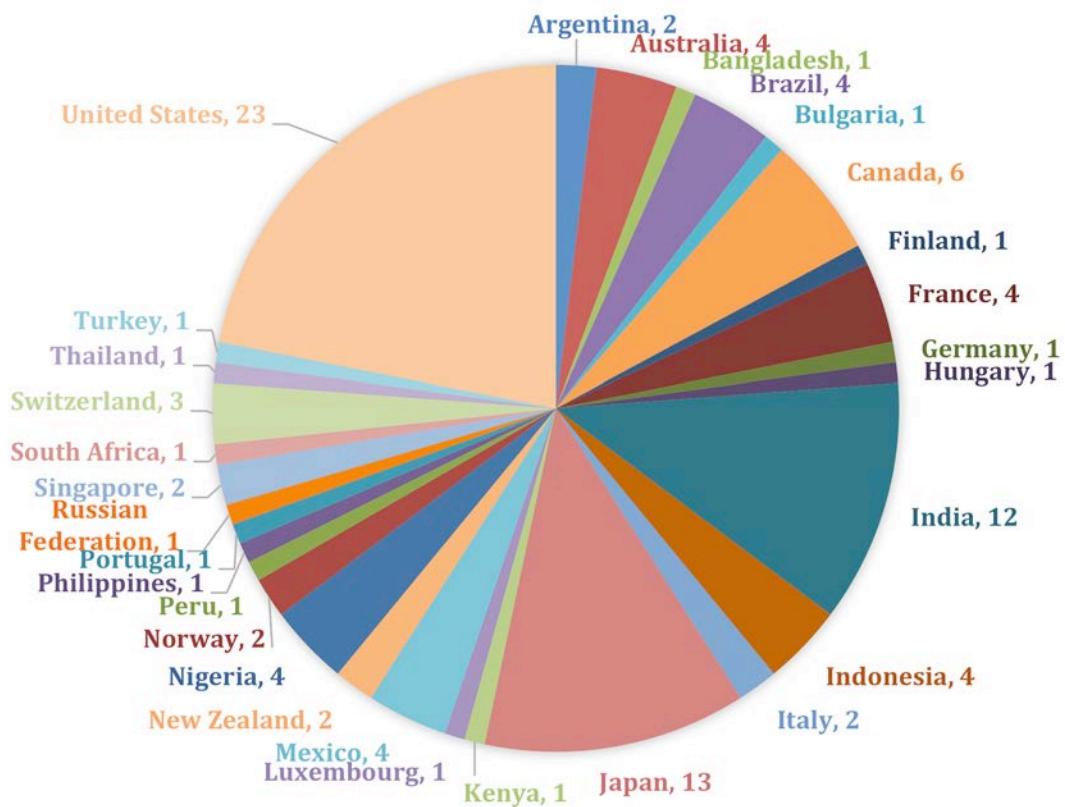
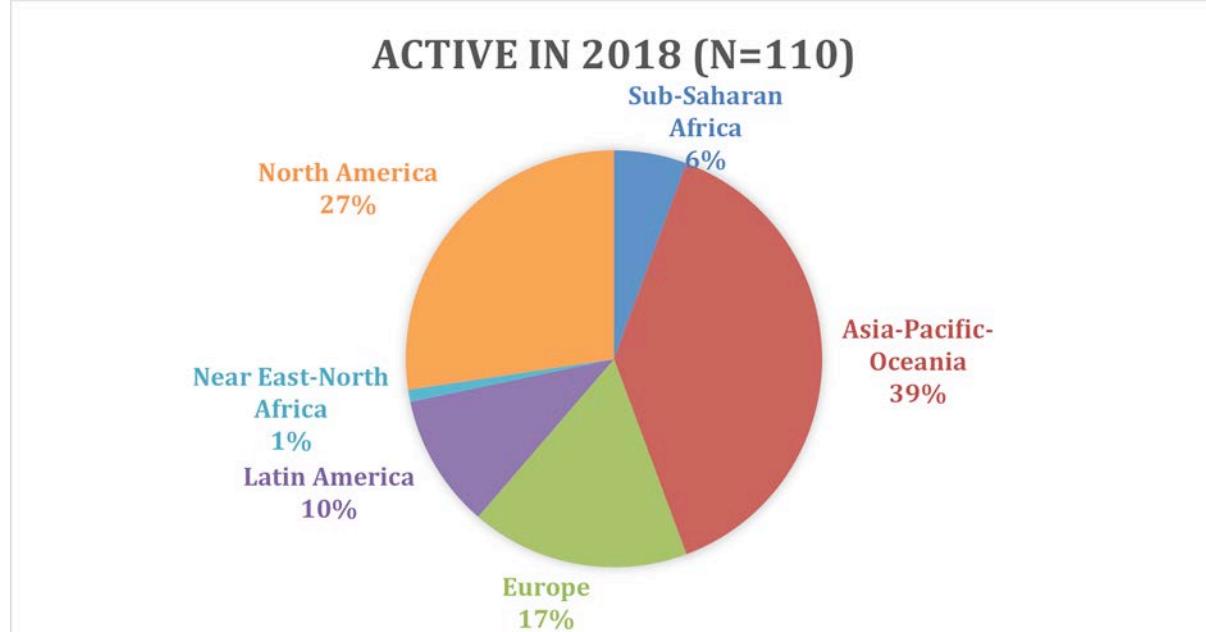


Figure 3



It is interesting to note that we have lost members at the same proportions from each of the regions during this last mandate (Figure 4). So to ensure that we do not continue to lose members from the regions, we should try to increase our visibility.

Figure 4



1.5. Finances

The following is the RC40 Balance sheet (prepared by Maki Hatanaka) and presents the revenue and expenses for the 2014-2018 mandate.

	Amount	Comment	Balance
Oct 2014	\$4,160.70	Starting balance	\$4,160.70
Nov 2014	+\$1,855.00	Membership fees	\$6,015.70
Mar 2015	-\$2,000.00	IJSAG support	\$4,015.70
	-\$45.00	Int'l wire fee	\$3,970.70
Aug 2016	+\$555	First half of RC Activity Grant	\$4,525.70.
	-\$15.00	Wire fee	\$4,510.70
Sep 2016	-\$78.00	(Grad students Toronto reception subsidy)	\$4,432.70
Oct 2017	-\$2,000.00	IJSAG support	\$2,432.70
	-\$50.00	Int'l wire fee	\$2,382.70
March 2018	-\$560.00	RC40 Website Development (To Paulo Niederle)	\$1,822.70
April 2018	-\$121.49	IJSAG webpage (To Mara Miele)	\$1,701.21

Budget Notes:

- We need USD\$100.00 annually to maintain the web at the Wix platform (10 Gb storage capacity).
- We should be able to receive an additional USD\$555.00 for the RC Activity Grant towards the end of 2018.
- The USD\$3,500.00 contribution sent by the Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire Sciences, Innovations et Sociétés (LISIS, Allison Loconto's organization) has still not arrived as of July 2018 (but is promised in 2018). These funds have been broadly earmarked for the activities of RC40 and its journal.
- New membership fees will probably arrive in November 2018 (these are the member fees paid between 1/1/2015-1/1/2018, we can expect about USD\$2,200.00 for the 90 inscriptions during this period.)

2. Core Activities Fall 2014 – July 2018

The core activity of RC40 is to promote and encourage scientific analysis of the social organization of agriculture and food systems.

2.1. Amendments to the RC40 Statutes

The first order of business for the outgoing EC was a number of amendments that needed to be made to the RC40 Statutes in order to conform to the ISA requirements.

The most important amendment was made regarding RC40 membership. The Statutes were revised in order to identify a difference between Regular and Affiliate members. Regular members are those who are also in good standing as members of the ISA, while Affiliate members are those who are only members of the RC. We also modified the ability of the different types of members to vote and hold office. The statutes were ratified by a unanimous vote (20 voting members) on 08 September 2015. The current statutes can be found online: <https://www.isa-agrifood.com/statutes>

At the Toronto Business Meeting, there are two motions for possible changes to the RC40 Statutes that are up for debate and a vote. They are:

- 1) **Proposal by RC40 EC: A motion to create a dedicated Junior Scholar Seat on the RC40 Executive Committee.**
 - a. **Motivation:** The RC40 EC would like to see a greater participation of junior scholars in the governance of the RC and opening a dedicated seat on the EC would facilitate and formalize this role.
 - b. **Proposed Debate:** The discussion of this motion should focus on the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed motion; the practicalities of implementing this change; and whether or not the motion can be put to vote in the meeting or if it should go to an electronic vote.
 - c. **Voting implications:**
 - i. A YES vote supports the proposal to make a dedicated seat for a Junior Scholar on the RC40 EC
 - ii. A NO vote means that a dedicated seat for a Junior Scholar on the RC40 EC should not be added to the Statutes.
- 2) **Proposal by RC40 EC: EC Editor added as official liaison on the IJSAG Editorial Team.**
 - a. **Motivation:** The RC40 EC, in collaboration with the new IJSAG Editorial Team, would like to better articulate the oversight relationship between the RC40 EC and the IJSAG Editorial Team. In the current statutes, the RC40 President – on behalf of the EC – holds official oversight of the IJSAG. In order to better operationalize as productive working relationship, the EC proposes that a member of the EC be nominated to serve as the official liaison and hold a seat on the Editorial Team for the duration of their mandate on the EC.
 - b. **Proposed debate:** The debate should address the merits and drawbacks of this form of oversight of the journal; the practicalities of implementing this appointment; and whether or not the motion can be put to vote in the meeting or if it should go to an electronic vote.
 - c. **Voting implications:**
 - i. A YES vote supports the proposal to create an official ‘EC Editor’ role in the IJSAG Editorial Team and write this in the RC40 Statutes.
 - ii. A NO vote means that an official ‘EC Editor’ role in the IJSAG Editorial Team should not be written into the RC40 Statutes.

2.2. Scientific meetings and contributions

During the 2014-2018 mandate, RC40 members were active in organizing mini-conferences during other scientific events. These were as follows:

- Organized RC40 Sessions in the ISA Forum in Vienna in 2016
 - 54 accepted papers
 - Special Issue of IJSAS (forthcoming 2018) *Social Innovation in Agriculture and Food: Old Wine in New Bottles?* Yuna Chiffolleau and Allison Loconto (Eds.)
- International Rural Sociological Association Congress, Toronto, Canada, 2016
 - 58 Accepted Papers
- Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Columbus, Ohio, United States 2017
- The XXVII European Society for Rural Sociology Conference, Krakow, Poland, 2017
 - 16 Accepted Papers
- Congress of the Brazilian Sociological Society, Brasilia, Brazil, 26-29 July 2017
- International Seminar: Contradictions and Crisis of the New State Capitalism Model in Agrifood in Brazil, November 2017, Federal University of Pernambuco, RECIFE, PE. BRAZIL.
- Multiple edited volumes resulted from RC40 mini-conferences and sessions

In addition, during the debates of the 2015 World Committee on Food Security (CFS) Open-Ended Working Group on Connecting Smallholders to Markets, RC40 organized a series of comments on the draft technical report of the Open-Ended Working Group and on the analytical guide published by the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM). RC40's contributions are recognized in the acknowledgements of this guide: <http://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/English-CONNECTING-SMALLHOLDERS-TO-MARKETS.pdf>

2.3. Awards granted by the RC

There is a motion to discuss setting up a Bill Friedland Memorial Award – or a Founders Award – that can provide a small amount of money to an engaged RC40 scholar. This motion may be addressed during the Business Meeting in Toronto.

2.4. Grants allocated by RC40

RC40 administered the ISA Registration grants for the 2016 ISA Forum in Vienna and the 2018 ISA World Congress in Toronto. The recipients were as follows:

<u>2018 ISA World Congress Toronto</u>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Anom Sigit Suryawan	Japan (A, student)	120
Manka Ngoh	Republic of South Africa (B, Student)	110
Paulo Niederle	Brazil (B)	198
Simon Ameh Ejembi	Nigeria (C)	151
Angga Dwiartama	Indonesia (C)	151
Shalini Sharma	India (C)	151
Srinivas Sajja	India (C)	151
Dilip Khairnar	India (C)	151
Maitreyee Bardhan Roy	India (C)	151
Adolph A. Naswem	Nigeria (C)	151
		USD 1485

<u>2016 ISA Forum Vienna</u>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bishnu Charan Barik	India (C)	120
Sungwoong JUNG	Japan (A)	250
Subir Kumar Bardhan Roy	India (C)	120
Elaine de Azevedo	Brasil (B)	140
Mercedes Biocca	Argentina (A)	250
		USD 880

2.5. Special activities for Junior Sociologists

As part of RC40's efforts to increase member engagement and to encourage greater involvement of students from around the world in our network, in 2017, RC40 launched a call for proposals to organize the First Quadrennial RC40 Summer School in conjunction with the ISA World Congress. The RC40 Board took the decision that for the moment the Summer School would need to be self-funded, but that a small seed grant could be contributed (USD 500). The RC40 EC received 1 proposal, which was approved by the EC, but the organizers (S. Wolf, A. Loconto, S. Prudham) decided against receiving the RC40 monetary contribution.

The first Summer School will be held from 11-15 July 2018 on the theme of: "Metrics of sustainability: Critical studies of sites, practices, and performances of accountability in environmental governance." The organizers received 99 applications and were able to select 15 for participation. More information can be found here: <http://blogs.cornell.edu/envgov2018/>

There is still an open question about this summer school, which revolves around whether or not this should be a RC40 centered event (i.e., focusing only on members of RC40) or if it should be a more open event that uses the RC40 label to help in creating an identity for the event. This may be discussed during the Business Meeting or during the preparations for launching the next call for Summer Schools.

3. Communications and Publications

3.1. Newsletters in 2014 -2017

RC40 has produced two newsletters per year (Summer and Winter). These follow a common template that includes an address from the President, an update from the Secretary/Treasurer, an update from the IJSFA Journal Editor, recent publications, upcoming events and usually an article or two from the regions.

Format: Newsletters are all saved in PDF format and distributed to RC40 members electronically through the RC40 listserv. All the newsletters are sent to the ISA Secretariat, uploaded on the RC40 page of the ISA website and they are stored on the RC40 webpage. They can be viewed online here: <https://www.isa-agrifood.com/publications-1>

3.2. Social media

Near the end of 2017, the new RC40 Website was launched: <https://www.isa-agrifood.com>.

LAC Representative Paulo Niederle coordinated the creation of the new website, which we are hoping will be transitioned into the core means of communication for the RC. The outgoing EC has proposed that the RC40 listserv be transferred from the current Yahoo! Group to the news function on the website, while the bi-annual newsletter could also be effectively integrated into the online content and a PDF could be extracted for posting on the ISA website. This proposal should be discussed in the next RC40 EC.

3.3. International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture and Food

Throughout the mandate of the outgoing EC, the professionalization of the IJSFA journal was pursued. IJSFA is an important outlet for RC40 scholarship, yet there has been an interest from the membership to gain academic recognition for this journal by achieving an official ranking in the prestigious citations indices.

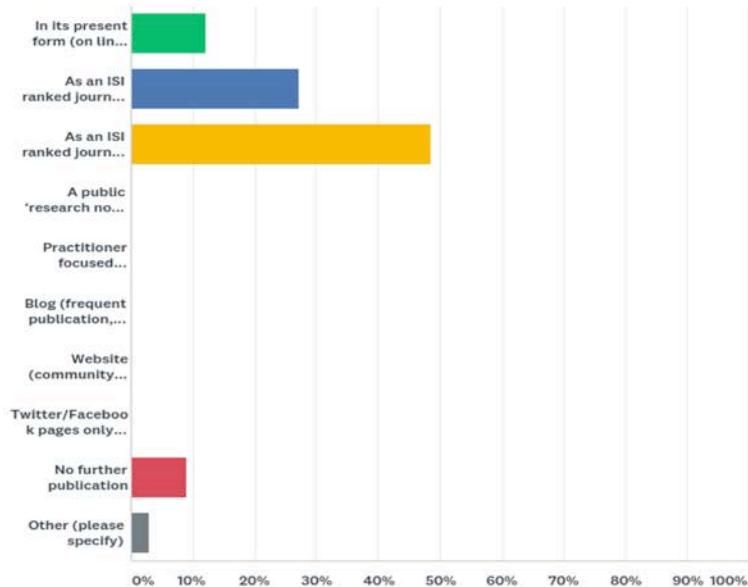
Beginning in 2014, the EC nominated a 'Journal Professionalization Committee' (Composed of A. Bonanno, A. Loconto and M. Miele) to consider options for professionalization. Sage and Taylor & Francis were approached, but nothing came of the discussions. In 2017, the journal profile was also submitted to Thomson Reuters for inclusion in ISI index, but they refused inclusion saying that the inconsistent frequency of the journal publication needed to improve.

During the Business Meeting in 2016, the membership seriously discussed the possible options for ways to improve the journal and following the conference (in September 2016) a survey was sent out to the membership in order to take stock of their engagement with the journal and their visions for the future of the journal. The majority of respondents said that they wanted an ISI ranked journal (Figure 5).

In 2017, the EC put out a call for a new Editor-in-Chief and began to elaborate new terms of service for the Editorial team. The current terms are as follows:

Figure 5

Q25 What do you think should be the future form of the IJSAF?



The International Journal of the Sociology of Agriculture and Food (IJSAF) is the official scientific journal of RC-40 (article III.A. of the RC40 Statutes). Hereinafter it will be referred to as 'the Journal.'

Appointment of the Editorial Team

1. The RC-40 President, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, shall appoint the Editor-in-Chief for a minimum period of 4 years, after consulting with the out-going editor(s) and the editorial board of the journal. The Editor-in-Chief may stand for re-appointment on not more than 2 consecutive periods of 2 years. The Executive Committee shall send out invitations for new editors to apply. Candidates must be a member of RC-40.
2. The Editor-in-Chief, assisted by an Editorial Team and an Editorial Board, shall be responsible for the editorial contents of the journal, the selection of manuscripts for inclusion in the journal and formulating the editorial policies of the journal.
3. The Editorial Team will be nominated by the Editor-in-Chief and will be appointed by the RC-40 Executive Committee for a minimum period of 4 years, which the possibility for re-appointment on not more than 2 consecutive periods of 2 years. This team should consist of at least an Assistant Editor and a Special Issues Editor. The appointment of the Editorial team must be approved by the RC40 Executive Committee.
4. The Editor-in-Chief shall, in consultation with the executive committee, appoint an editorial assistant to take charge of the daily running of the journal. The editorial assistant shall have responsibility for co-ordinating the entire submission, reviewing and publication process; responding to contributors; liaising with reviewers; maintaining the website; ensuring that the editors are provided with regular updates on contributions and reviewing; and, assisting in the planning of future issues.
5. The president of RC-40, in consultation with the editors and the members of the executive committee, shall appoint the members of the editorial board. The editorial board members consist of distinguished researchers in the sociology of agriculture and food and at the time of appointment

must be members of RC-40. Members of the Editorial Board are appointed for a minimum period of 6 years, with the possibility of renewal for 1 additional period of 4 years. The editorial board is responsible for participating in the peer-review process by nominating reviewers and/or conducting the reviews themselves. They should be consulted by the Editor-in-Chief on strategic decisions related to the development of the journal.

Working relationships

1. The RC-40 leadership shall not intervene in editorial policy and all other matters related to the contents of the Journal.
2. The working relation between the Editor and the Editorial Team shall be established in agreement between the two parties. Any conflicts shall be brought to the attention of the Executive Committee.
3. The termination of appointment for members of the Editorial Team must be recommended to the RC-40 Executive Committee by the Editor-in-Chief. Following an Executive Committee deliberation, the RC-40 President is responsible for communicating a decision to the Editorial Team and the Editorial Board.
4. The termination of appointment for the Editor-in-Chief must be recommended to the Executive Committee by a member of the Editorial Team, the Editorial Board or the RC-40 Executive Committee. Following deliberation by the RC-40 Executive Committee, and in consultation with the Editorial Board, the RC-40 President is responsible for communicating a decision to the Editorial Team and Editorial Board.

Journal Finances

1. The Executive Committee shall, where possible, provide financial support to ensure the ongoing viability of the journal.
2. The Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Team shall be responsible for mobilizing funds to support the running costs of the journal.
3. The Editor-in-Chief, the Editorial Team and the Editorial Board shall not claim any payment in the form of wages, or compensation for time he or she invests in working for the Journal.
4. The Editorial Assistant can claim payment from the Editor-in-Chief in the form of wages, or compensation for time he or she invests in working for the Journal.
5. The Editor-in-Chief shall transmit bi-annual activity reports on the journal to the RC-40 newsletter and shall present a report at the quadrennial business meeting.
6. The Editor-in-Chief shall transmit a complete record of journal finances to the secretary of RC-40 at the end of the third quarter, who shall add those records to the yearly financial report that is to be submitted to the executive committee and the quadrennial report submitted to the business meeting.

Amendments to these Terms of Service

1. These Terms of Service should be reviewed every 4 years, in line with the incoming Editorial Team.
2. Any amendments must be approved by a simple majority vote by the RC-40 Executive Committee.

The application submitted by Ray Jussaume was approved by the EC. Claire Marris and Katerina Psarikidou were recruited to join the new editorial team. The new team took over the journal management on 01/01/2018 and have since automated the submissions process (<http://ijsfa.org/index.php/ijsaf>). An update of the journal's progress and the Editorial team's plans for the future of the journal will be presented during the business meeting.

From IJSAF Chief Editor

Raymond A. Jussaume Jr.

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As I wrote in an earlier newsletter, I assumed the role of Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture & Food on January 1 of this year. At the same time, Drs. Aikaterini Psarikidou of Lancaster University and Claire Marris of the University of London began serving as co-Associate Editors of the Journal. Additionally, Ms. Macy Riutta was hired as a part-time assistant to the editor.

Since January 1, twelve manuscripts have been submitted to us for possible review. I would note that this is a VERY low number of submissions given our goal/hope of publishing four issues per year. Of those twelve manuscripts, eight were not sent out for review as they did not meet the minimum standards established by myself, Dr. Psarikidou and Dr. Marris. Of the four remaining manuscripts, two have been accepted for publication pending revisions as suggested by the external reviewers.

Beginning early in 2018, we began receiving manuscripts at <ijsfa.org>. All potential authors should use this link to submit their manuscripts to the journal's peer review process. This web site is being managed using the Open Journal Systems' journal managing system. The goal of having this system is to more easily manage the flow of articles through the review and publication processes.

Also, earlier this year, we constructed a master data base of potential manuscript reviewers. This list was constructed from the RC-40 membership list and from the names of authors who have published in IJSAF over the past five years. This master data base currently consists of 140 names. We currently have e-mail addresses for 125 of these names, and all 125 of these individuals were asked to complete a survey about the kinds of articles they would like to review for the journal as well as register as reviewers at <ijsfa.org>. Of those 125 individuals, 21 responded. Once again, this response rate is inadequate considering our publication goals. It also makes the process of creating a new editorial board quite challenging.

It is the hope of the editorial team that these and related issues regarding RC-40s flagship journal will be actively discussed at the upcoming ISA meetings in Toronto. I look forward to seeing many of you there.



XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology

XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology abstract submission is open. RC40 will (co)sponsor 9 sessions in Toronto that include:

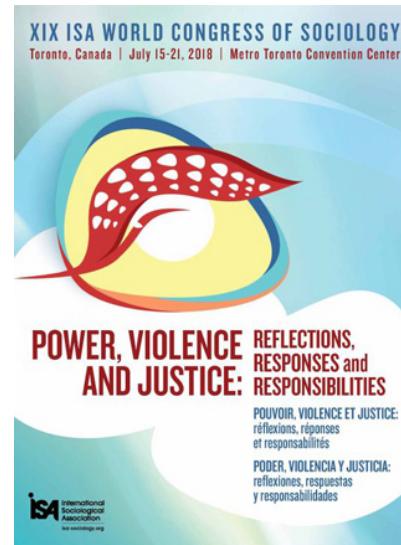
- Agriculture Justice: A New Frontier of Collective and Intersectional Battle
- Assessing Effect of Demonetization on Agriculture of Small Farmers in India and the Other Third World Countries
- Food Regime Analysis in an Asian Context
- Food Sovereignty and Land Grabbing
- Metrics in Environmental Governance: Toward a Critical Analysis of Accountability
- Neoliberal Agriculture and Distress Peasants: Why They Commit Suicide
- Prosumers and Social Innovation in Alternative Food Networks
- Techno-Politics in Agriculture and Food Under (and After?) Capitalism
- The Role and Significance of Geographical Indication As a Tool for the Development and Democratization of Agri-Food

RC40 Business Meeting in Toronto on July 16!!

We are meeting on Monday, 16 July 2018: 19:30-20:50 in 205A (MTCC NORTH BUILDING) in order to hold our bi-annual Business Meeting. The agenda is as follows:

- 1) Welcome and state of the RC – 5 minutes (Allison Loconto)
- 2) Update membership & budget – 5 minutes (Maki Hatanaka)
- 3) Update website and communications – 15 minutes (Paulo Niederle + Hilde Bjørkhaug)
- 4) Update summer school – 5 minutes (Steven Wolf + Allison Loconto)
- 5) Update journal – 10 minutes (Ray Jussaume)
- 6) Update regional reps – 10 minutes (Steven Wolf + Regional Reps)
- 7) Motions to vote on – 20 minutes
 - a. Proposal by EC: Junior Scholar Position on the EC
 - b. Proposal by EC: EC Editor added as official liaison to the IJSFA Editorial Team
 - c. Proposals from the membership ?
- 8) Introduction of the incoming EC – 10 minutes
(Allison Loconto and Steven Wolf)

All RC40 Members are strongly encouraged to participate!



Upcoming Events

Congress FOOD 2030: Towards sustainable agri-food systems**September 5-6, 2018**

University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany

<https://food2030.uni-hohenheim.de/en>

Abstract Submissions: closed

Agriculture and Food in an Urbanizing Society. Third International Conference. (AgUrbanIII)**September 17-21, 2018**

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

<http://agricultureinanurbanizingsociety.com.umbler.net/>

Abstract Submissions: closed

III Congreso Español de Sociología de la Alimentación**September 27-28, 2018**

Universidad de Oviedo, Gijón, Spain

<http://www.congreso-fes-socialimen-2018.com/es/>

Abstract Submissions: closed

27th Annual National Conference of the Rural Sociological Association of Nigeria (RuSAN)

Rural Social Interventions and Development in Nigeria

October 8-11, 2018

Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria.

<http://rusan.org.ng/conference>

Abstract Submission due: July 20, 2018

Agri-Food XXV: Celebrating 25 years of the Agri-Food Research Network, exploring past, present and future contributions to agri-food studies**November 30 - December 5, 2018**

Brisbane, Australia

<https://social-science.uq.edu.au/Agri-foodXXV-2018>

Abstract Submission Due: August 1, 2018

Sliden Africa Accra 2019: African Development Beyond Slogans: New Approaches and Sustainable Outcomes**March 3-6, 2019**

Accra, Ghana

<http://slidenafrica.org/events/sliden-africa-accra-2019/>

Abstract Submission Due: January 14, 2019

RC40 Executive Council (2014-2018)

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From the Secretary

Maki Hatanaka (maki.hatanaka@shsu.edu)

[1] About the Listserv of the RC-40:

Beginning fall 2014, RC40 has established its listserv using the Yahoo Groups. We hope to use this listserv to enhance communication and interaction among the RC40 members.

List Logistics:

- To join the RC40 listserv, send your message to: rc40_food_and_ag_soc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.
- To post messages to the list membership, send your message to: rc40_food_and_ag_soc@yahoogroups.com.

[2] About the membership fee:

Membership to the International Sociological Association (ISA) and RC40 covers a four year period. To apply for membership and see the fee structure, please go to http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb_i/index.htm.

Agriculture and Food is published twice a year by the International Sociological Association, Research Committee on Agriculture and Food.

For more information contact:

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