Notes from the President

Dear Colleagues and Friends

All the best wishes for 2020! May the New Year bring peace to the world, moments of happiness to us all and many inspiring encounters and meetings.

The approaching IV ISA Forum of Sociology to be held in July 2020 is a wonderful opportunity to make some of these wishes come true. Thousands of sociologists from all over the world will meet in Porto Alegre, Brazil, to share and discuss their perspectives, knowledge and research interests. Due to a rise in nationalist politics we cannot overestimate the importance and necessity of strengthening international bonds and building friendships across cultures and borders.

I’m therefore quite happy to inform you that we have received an impressive number of high-quality papers from international researchers working in the fields of mental health and illness. The sessions reflect the broad spectrum and great variety of the sociological aspects of mental health and illness, and this newsletter gives us a first and very promising glimpse of what we can expect and look forward to!

Please keep in mind that, to be included in the program, all participants must register by March 19, 2020.

Attracting young scholars for RC49 is one of our greatest intentions. In January, we will circulate another advertisement for gifted memberships (up to $40USD). Currently, we are applying for the second round of the Research Committees activities grants (2019-2022). If we are successful, the money will be used to offer travel bursaries for PhD students and scholars, particularly those from B and C countries.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Porto Alegre in 2020!

Silvia Krumm
President of RC49
1.) Important Deadlines

- **REGISTRATION** is open with deadline for presenters MARCH 19th, 2020 24:00 GMT
  Registration link: [https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/forum2020/registration/call.cgi](https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/forum2020/registration/call.cgi)

- **FINAL MODIFICATIONS: APRIL 1 – APRIL 17, 2020 24:00 GMT**
  - Session Organizer modifies sessions based on withdrawal of non-registered presenters.
  - Chairs and discussants are assigned from among the registered participants.
  - Program Coordinator completes sessions schedule according to the conference timetable.
  - In case the type of an individual’s presentation is changed, or if a presentation is transferred to a different session, Confex will send notifications to authors with final session and presentation details after April 30.


2.) **RC 49 Oral Sessions** (Program Coordinator: Silvia Krumm)

1. Mental Health and Social Situation of People with Different Kinds of Disabilities.
   Session organizer: Kjeld Hogsbro, Aalborg University, Department of Sociology and Social Work, Denmark

2. Mental Health in Latin America: A New Social Question?
   Session organizer: Alvaro Jimenez, University of Chile, Chile

3. Social Services for People with Mental Health Problems / Joint Session Institutional Ethnography (host committee)

   Session organizer: Kevin Stone, University of the West of England, United Kingdom

5. Violence and Mental Health.
   Session organizer: Silvia Krumm, Department of Psychiatry II, Ulm University, Germany

6. Risk Factors and Protective Factors of Mental Health in Adolescents and Young Adults.
   Session organizer: Takashi Asakura, Tokyo Gakugei University, Japan

7. Social Relationships and Mental Health and Illness.
   Session organizer: Reinhold Kilian, Psychiatry and Psychotherapy II, Ulm University, Germany

8. The Sociology of Global Mental Health.
Session organizer: Jeremy Dixon, Social and Policy Sciences, University of Bath, United Kingdom

9. **Economic Inequality, Intersectionality, Mental Distress and Related Health Outcomes Among Women in Developing and Industrialized Areas.**  
   Session organizers: James Linn, Optimal Solutions in Healthcare and International Development; Michele Kadri, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation--Leonidas e Maria Deane Research Center, Brazil

10. **Obstacles For Social Inclusion of Mentally Ill Persons.**  
    Session organizer: Jorge Chuaqui, Universidad de Valparaiso, Chile

11. **Business meeting**
Asakura, Takashi - Past president of RC49 (2014-2018), Board member

Professor at Tokyo Gakugei University, Laboratory of Health and Social behavior, Tokyo, Japan. Main focuses of my research are “Psychosocial determinants of adolescent mental health” and “Ecohealth approach to children and adolescents in developing countries.”

Chuaqui, Jorge – RC49 Board member

Professor at the School of Sociology, Universidad de Valparaíso, Chile. Member of the Permanent Curriculum Committee and the Advisory Council of the School of Sociology in the Universidad de Valparaíso.

Jorge Chuaqui y colaboradores: ESTRUCTURA SOCIAL, PODER Y PERSONA (Un tributo a El Capital de Carlos Marx). ISBN: 978-956-01-0686-5. Santiago de Chile: RIL Editores, 2019, 228 pp. “In "Social Structure, Power and the Individual," Professor Jorge Chuaqui and his collaborators make important new contributions to sociological theory, provide an adapted Marxist analysis of the state that is applicable to Western Societies including Latin America, offer a unique integration of macro and micro sociology by integrating Marxist, Structural-Functionalist, Weberian and Symbolic-Interactionist concepts, and add to the current discussion of social inclusion of the mentally ill.”  … “Professor Chuaqui observes that there are particular social sectors, e.g., those with mental and social disabilities who have little power but can be given considerable power when recognized and supported by the state. This commentary is a segue to Chapter 4, which provides an historical discussion of the concept of social exclusion. In this analysis, it is noted that social exclusion as it relates to persons with mental and physical disabilities has evolved with the economic transformation of societies.


Dixon, Jeremy – Vice president of RC49, Board member

Senior Lecturer in Social Work at the Department of Social & Policy Sciences, University of Bath

Jeremy has been working on several projects in 2019:

Jeremy has worked with Dr Ceri Brown (Department of Education, University of Bath) on a project which examines children?s perspectives on mental health education. He has also been part of a research group with Professor Judy Laing (Law, Bristol University) and Dr Kevin Stone (Law, University of the West of England) focussing on the role of relatives within current mental health law in England and Wales. In addition, he is exploring how adult safeguarding procedures in the UK can be improved for people with dementia, with
Professor Jim Campbell (Social Work, University College Dublin) and Dr Sarah Donnelly (Social Work, University College, Dublin). He is also undertaking a systematic review of mental health models with Dr Dirk Richter (Centre of Psychiatric Rehabilitation, Bern) and is working on a project focussing on the extent to which people with mental health problems are supported to have close or romantic relationships with Professor Rachel Forrester-Jones (Social Policy, University of Bath).


Høgsbro, Kjeld – Secretary of RC49, Board member

Professor at the The Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Sociology and Social Work, University of Aalborg, Denmark

Kilian, Reinhold - Past president of RC49 (2006-2010), Board member

Head of the section of health economics and mental health services research and Professor of health economics and medical sociology at the Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy II of the Ulm University, Germany. His research activities include the evaluation of mental health service interventions, the examination of economic aspects of mental disorder and mental health promotion, and the development of methods for cost-and outcome assessment in mental health services. Current research projects deal with the role of masculinity and work orientation in male depression, workplace mental health interventions and with the health economic evaluation of psychosocial interventions for families with mentally ill parents, for young and adult refugees, chronically ill children and for people with severe mental illness.


Krumm, Silvia – Current president of RC49 (2019-2022), Board member

Senior Researcher at Ulm University Ulm, Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy II at the Bezirkskrankenhaus Guenzburg, Germany. Research in the field of social psychiatry, lectures and training in qualitative methods.


Krumm S: [Mental illness, violence and gender. A blind spot in the provision of mental health services]. Sozialpsychiatrische Informationen 2019, 49 (1), 40-44.

Lichtenstein, Bronwen – Past RC49 president (2010-2014), Board member

Professor of Sociology, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, The University of Alabama, USA.

Linn, James G. – Past RC49 president (2003-2007), Board member

Senior Researcher, Optimal Solutions in Healthcare and Meharry, U.S.A.
Visiting Professor University of Valparaiso, Chile
Associate Editor, Journal of AIDS and HIV Research.
Reviewer: International AIDS Conference 2020
Community AIDS Board Member of HIV/AIDS Vaccine Clinical Trials Center of Vanderbilt University

Research on social determinants of mental health and illness and mental health correlates of HIV in the U.S., Latin America and Africa. Quantitative and qualitative methods for mental health and HIV program evaluation

Chuaqui J., and Linn, J.G. (2019) Attempts to achieve parity and coverage in Chile in mental


Organized Regional Conference for ISA/RC-49 in the Section of Chronic Disease and Disability of the Western Social Science Association which was held in San Diego California, April 25-27. There were 10 panels and 33 presentations. All abstracts were published online by the Western Social Science Association.

Grants:

Invited Lectures/Seminars

"Climate Change and Health in the Americas", Presented at the Instituto de Medioambiente de la Republica Dominicana, Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic, March 4th, 2019

"Climate Change and Health, A Global Perspective". Presented at Cumberland University, Lebanon/Nashville Tennessee, March 13, 2019

"The Legacy of Functionalist Theory in U.S. Sociology". Presented in Seminar on Sociological Theory at the Institute of Sociology, University of Valparaiso, Chile July 9th 2015’


**Richter, Dirk – RC 49 Board member**

Head of Research and Development, Bern University Hospital for Mental Health, Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Senior Researcher, Bern University of Applied Sciences, Department of Health Professions, Switzerland.

Mental illness related research on housing rehabilitation, occupational rehabilitation, epidemiology and health care provision approaches. Research on violence in health care settings.


Richter D: [Is violence against health care staff on the increase? Hypotheses, data and sociological explanations.] Sozialpsychiatrische Informationen, 1/2019, pp. 15-18

Ringø, Pia– RC 49 Board member

Pia, Ph.D, is Associate Professor at Aalborg University, Denmark.