

RCHS
Research Committee on the History of Sociology
International Sociological Association (ISA)

NEWSLETTER

December 1996

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From the Secretary

An important item below is the one about the election of officers. Please do all you can to ensure that we have candidates who are really interested in making an active contribution to the running of RCHS, and perhaps have new ideas for ways in which it can be improved. It would be good, too, to see the officers coming from a wider range of countries.

Members may have noticed that they received an advertisement from Sage Publications which used our labels. I hope nobody objects to this. Sage approached me to ask for the addresses and, since the journal was of potential direct interest to our members, I agreed to give them a set of labels for one-off use in return for a payment of £25 to our funds.

Apologies to members for the unexpected lateness of this newsletter. It had been intended to send it out earlier, but it was necessary to wait for the World Congress information from the ISA secretariat, which only became available recently.

RCHS EC Elections

A new Executive Council (EC) should take over the running of RCHS at the 1998 World Congress, so the time has now come for nominations and elections. The statutes say that the EC consists of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and ten members, who hold office for 4 years. In practice it has become the custom that the Secretary does all the routine administrative work - keeping membership lists, putting together newsletters, organising meetings, responding to ISA requests. (Anyone interested in finding out more before deciding about a nomination is invited to get in touch with the current Secretary, preferably by e mail.) Other members are expected only to give their views on issues as they arise and to make an input of ideas, as well as publicising the RC among their contacts. (Perhaps it would be a good idea to find ways of giving them a more active role?) The EC does not normally meet except at the biennial conferences.

Any paid-up member of RCHS who is *also* a member of the ISA is eligible for nomination to the EC; only those who are themselves currently paid-up members of RCHS can make nominations. The term of office is four years. The President and Vice-Presidents are not eligible for re-election to the same office for the next term, but other members of the EC may be elected to a second term; after two terms of membership they are immediately eligible only for the offices of President or Vice-President. Current members of the EC are: President, Lewis Coser*; Vice-Presidents, Dirk Kaesler* and Jennifer Platt*; Secretary, Jennifer Platt; other members, Martin Albrow, Martin Bulmer*, Nikolai Genov, Hans Joas, Henrika Kuklick, Birgitta Nedelmann, Guenther Roth, Edward Tiryakian*, Kurt Wolff. Those current EC members with asterisks* by their names are not eligible for re-election to the same positions; JP is not prepared to serve longer as Secretary.

Nominations are invited now for all positions on the EC. A nomination form is provided on the back of this page, though this need not be used as long as the relevant information is included in what is sent. The deadline for the submission of nominations is 31 March 1997; if an election is required, ballot papers will be in the next newsletter.

World Congress: Montréal 1998

We now have the official details of our slots at the World Congress, and can start to make specific plans. It will be held in Montréal from July 26-August 1 1998. We (like every other RC) have been allocated a maximum of 14 time slots, though in some of those slots it will be possible to run parallel sessions if we wish; I hope we can as far as possible avoid that. One slot will be for our business meeting; at least one will also be a 'general' session, to allow the possibility of papers which do not fit well into any of the rubrics so far provided; we might wish to avoid meeting on the final Saturday. (Members with views on the timetable are invited to let the Secretary know of them.)

The sessions which have been proposed are listed below, with their organisers; these will, of course, only run in practice if sufficient papers of good quality are offered which fit their remits. Members who are interested in giving papers should send the details direct to the relevant organisers as soon as possible. Papers must be in one of the ISA's official languages: English, French, or Spanish. Only papers by paid-up members of RCHS can be accepted, so if you wish to give one and your membership dues are not up to date you should pay as soon as convenient. (See page 7 for a list of those members who should pay during 1997.) The general deadline for submission of papers for consideration is 15 November 1997; session organisers may choose to set an earlier one for their sessions. Planned sessions are listed opposite.



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RCHS Executive Council Nomination form

Please note that it is the responsibility of the nominator to check before sending the nomination in that the candidate is willing to stand.

Name of person(s) nominated & positions for which they are nominated:

.....
.....
.....

Name of nominator.....

I confirm that the person(s) nominated above has/have consented to nomination.

Signature of nominator:.....

Planned World Congress sessions and organisers

The detailed time table of our sessions will be worked out later;

the order in which they are listed below has no significance.

Construction of sociological knowledge in the colonial setting

This session will consider the history of sociology's encounter with colonial societies. Subjects such as the role of metropolitan research institutions, local centres of research, the role of indigenous knowledge, the origins of concepts and theories used to discuss colonial societies are some of the themes to be considered.

Dr Frank Furedi, Keynes College, The University, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NP, UK;
ff2@ukc.ac.uk

Dr Lyn Schumaker, Wellcome Unit, Maths Tower, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL, UK

In search of a 'good society': the concept of sociology as a 'moral science' in the history of sociology.

The different courses of the concept of sociology as a scholarly enterprise to formulate scientific designs for the 'good society' in different national traditions; the historical processes of the 'scientific turn' after which even the idea of sociology as a 'moral science' was banned as unscientific; where does sociology stand in this discussion as we approach the 21st century?

Prof. Dirk Kaesler, Institut für Soziologie, Phillips-Universität Marburg, Am Grün 1, Fronhof, D-35037 Marburg, Germany; kaesler@nws.fb03.uni-marburg.de

Dr Maarten Mentzel, 38 Johan de Wittstraat 38, 2334 AR Leiden, Netherlands;
maartenm@sepa.tudelft.nl

National sociological associations

National sociological associations have been given little attention in the history of sociology, but they play a significant role in it both organisationally and intellectually, though that role has differed considerably from one country or period to another. This session will attempt to compare different associations and to relate them to their social contexts. The issues raised may range from their internal organisation and membership to their external political roles, and will include both their intellectual functions and their concern for such matters as research funding and members' employment. (A detailed list of topics which it might be relevant to cover will be circulated to those interested.)

Prof. J. Platt, Arts E, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9QN, Sussex, England;
j.platt@sussex.ac.uk

Histories of the use of sociological concepts in sociological research

Concepts mediate the relationship between theory and empirical research. The focus would be on the history of such use of particular concepts; examples could include anomie, social cohesion, charisma, social class, party self-identification, self-reported illness, poverty, religious belief. Discussions of any suitable concept would be considered.

Prof. Martin Bulmer, Dept. of Sociology, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5XH, UK; m.bulmer@soc.surrey.ac.uk

Interconnections between early sociology and social policy

The interventions of early sociologists in the practical, political arena of social policy.

Dr. Rosalind Sydie, Dept. of Sociology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H4, Canada; rsydie@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca

The Myrdals and modernity

Gunnar Myrdal was born in 1898, and played a quite significant role in the diffusion of some important strands of thought, carrying Chicago School concepts to Sweden and instrumental reform-minded policy analysis to the USA. He was influenced by Max Weber (scientific value-relativism) and Axel Hägerstrom (Scandinavian legal realism), and was successful on the American scene. His career, moreover, manifests the role of American philanthropy in the development of European as well as American social science. There is rich source material on him which has hardly been utilised. Papers relating to Alva Myrdal as well are most welcome. The Myrdals wrote books and travelled together and contributed to the same project of modernity and piecemeal social engineering.

Key concepts: secularisation, intellectual migration, national styles of research, value freedom/-orientation, instrumental means/end analyses, anti-metaphysics, social engineering.
Prof. Sven Eliaeson, Box 3524 Naset, Saxhyttan, S-712 94 Grythyttan, Sweden

L’histoire de la sociologie canadienne / The history of Canadian sociology

Les thèmes suggérés sont les suivants: les individus clefs, surtout ceux qui n’ont particulièrement reçu beaucoup d’attention; le développement de sociologies régionales (du Québec, des Maritimes, de l’Ontario, des Prairies ou de la Colombie Britannique); des liens historiques entre la sociologie et les autres disciplines (ex. anthropologie, économie politique, études des femmes, histoire sociale, philosophie...); de l’histoire des domaines substantifs, théories ou approches méthodologiques.

Suggested topics include: key individuals, especially those who have not yet received a great deal of attention; the development of regional sociologies (British Columbia, the Prairies, Ontario, Québec, the Maritimes); the historical links between sociology and other disciplines (e.g. anthropology, philosophy, political economy, social history, women’s studies...); the history of substantive areas, theories or methodological approaches.

Prof. R. Helmes-Hayes, Dept. of Sociology, University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1; rhh@uwaterloo.ca

The history of sociology and the stabilisation of disciplinary identity

The debate around postmodernism has shown to what extent sociology is still far from being capable of drawing its boundaries towards either other social science disciplines or the free floating discourse of public opinion. This lack is often filled by resorting to the history of sociology as a way of stabilising a specific disciplinary identity. The session should therefore aim at investigating the role of the history of sociology by both mapping out the development of different historiographies, and questioning the performative function of their narration. In this light, a particular emphasis should be given to the constitution of a disciplinary canon and to the role attributed to the ‘founding fathers’ within it.

Dr Paolo Barbesino, CulCom, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RQ, Sussex, England; p.barbesino@sussex.ac.uk

Dr Salvino Salvaggio, Dept. de Sciences Sociales, Université de Liège, Bd du Rectorat 7 B31, 4000 Liège, Belgium; hqds@vml.ulg.ac.be

The founding of German sociology: intellectual origins and social contexts

(Further details available from proposers.)

Dr Theresa Wobbe, Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Soziologie, Babelsberger Strasse 14-16, 10715 Berlin, Germany

Dr. John P. Drysdale, 45015 Hampton Ave., Montréal, Québec H4A 2L1, Canada

East European traditions of sociology

(Further details available from proposer.)

Professor Dr. Hans-Peter Müller, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Philosophische Fakultät III, Fakultätsinstitut Sozialwissenschaften, Unter den Linden 6, 10099 Berlin, Germany; hpmueller@sowi.hu-berlin.de

Changing discourses in Eastern and Central Europe

(Further details available from proposer.)

Dr. Eva Karadi, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Budapest, ELTE, Egyetem ter 1, H-1364 Budapest, Hungary; h3612tor@ella.hu

Studies and restudies of communities

What can we learn from such studies about the history of sociology? This could be approached through looking at either classic one-off community studies, or restudies.

Dr. Jean-Michel Chapoulie, 4 Allée de le Tournelle, 91370 Verrières - le - Buisson, France

Harriet Martineau and the theoretical foundations of modern sociology)

Papers are invited on the continuing relevance of this pioneering British sociologist's work in sociology today, the sociobiographical location of Martineau's ideas and intellectual networks, Martineau's shifting fortunes in the sociology of knowledge, and the epistemological origins of modern sociology exemplified in her work. Topics especially welcomed will include her theoretical positions and development over time, and the epistemological framework implicit in her translation /abridgment of Comte's Positive Philosophy.

Dr Michael R. Hill, 2701 Sewell St., Lincoln, Nebraska 68502, USA

Hegel's social theory

Despite the numerous references to Hegel in sociology and social theory insufficient attention has been paid to his ideas. This session would be devoted to helping to rectify this situation. Hegel is a dialectical thinker, and that means in part that he is one of the foremost thinkers who had a deep and abiding interest in social interaction at all levels. Topics in this session might include Hegel on recognition, on the family, the community, the society and the state, as well as his influence on sociological traditions.

Mr Christopher Adair-Toteff, American University in Bulgaria, 2700 Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria; CSAT@nws.aubg.bg

Fin-de siècle journals: the Année Sociologique and the American Journal of Sociology

1998 will be the 100th anniversary of the first publication of the Année Sociologique, which started with leadoff articles by Durkheim and Simmel; the AJS was already in its fourth year of publication. This session would enable participants to make comparisons regarding the contents, contributors, approaches and impacts of the two journals on their respective sides of the Atlantic.

Prof. E. A. Tiryakian, Dept. of Sociology, Duke University, Durham, NC 27706, U.S.A; etiry@soc.soc.duke.edu

General session

This session is for papers which do not fit the remit of any other session. Only complete papers will be considered for it; an abstract is not sufficient.
 Prof. J. Platt, Arts E, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9QN, Sussex, England;
 j.platt@sussex.ac.uk

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Dues Reminder

Members whose names are listed below will cease to be members unless they renew their membership in the course of 1997. **It will not be possible to send any further individual reminder, so please act on this one!** Whenever you pay during the year, the renewal will be dated from the day when your current membership expires, so from that point of view you will neither lose nor gain by renewing on a particular date. Prompt action will be very much appreciated, and save potential embarrassment if we have to reject your paper or remove your name as a session organiser. Thank you very much.

Alexander	Rodriguez-Gonzalez	Lecuyer	Schroeter
Bulmer	Gorges	Llobera	Segre
Buxton	Halfmann	McLaughlin	Skretkowicz
Catano	Harbers	Natsukari	Sprondel
Chanthanom	Haselbach	Nedelmann	Stanzione
Chapoulie	Hill	Nemedi	Sun
Clausen	Joas	Ohgane	Tarr
Costa Pinto	Kajitani Watson	Pels	Winkler
Deegan	Karabatzaki-Perdiki	Prades	Yamashita
Fisher	Klingemann	Roth	Zabludovsky
Genov	Korte	Saram	
Gerhardt	Kurzweil	Sampson	

Members' work in progress

Eric Mendelsohn	‘Between two trials: the political philosophy of Hannah Arendt from Dreyfus to Eichmann’.
Nikolas Rose	Formation of empirical states of reason in sociology, 1840-1970.
Dorothy Ross	Debates about social ethics in the US
Vera Vratusa-Zunjic	Changes of paradigms and fashions in social science

News and Notes

Attention is drawn to the **International Thorstein Veblen Association**, founded in 1992. Its purposes include the revival in a Veblenian spirit of a critical and historical attitude to the social sciences, the evaluation of Veblen's ideas in relation to the contemporary world order, the better understanding of Veblen's ideas and the relation between his ideas and his style, and the fostering of communication among Veblen scholars. For further information, contact Prof. Rick Tilman, Dept. of Public Administration, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada 89154, USA; e mail, tilman@ccmail.nevada.edu

The 1997 **Harriet Martineau Sociological Society Working Seminar** will be held on May 20-22 at Mission Point Resort, Mackinac Island, Michigan. All scholars working on the sociological contributions of Martineau or related early woman sociologists are invited to present, discuss and /or critique their current projects. Members of the seminar will walk the back trails and visit the same sights Martineau saw in the 1830s as they discuss her work! Details are available from Michael Hill (Dept. of Sociology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588-0324, USA, until Dec 31; after that, at 2799 Mizpah Park Rd., Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022); registration is \$15 by Dec. 31 1996, \$25 thereafter. To reserve accommodation at a special rate, contact Mission Point Resort free on (800) 833-7711, saying that you are attending the Martineau Sociological Society meeting. Travel to Mackinac Island is by ferry; no motor vehicles are allowed.

An international conference on **Savoir, Économie et Société / Knowledge, Economy and Society** will be held at the University of Montreal on July 3-5, 1997. Session topics will include the governance of knowledge and knowledge based economies, knowledge and social transformation, the rationalisation of control processes in knowledge based societies, the restructuring of employment in knowledge based societies, the knowledge economy and challenges for developing countries, the knowledge economy in Central and Eastern Europe. For further details contact the organisers: Prof. Arnaud Sales, GRETSE, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succ. A, Montréal, Québec H3C 3J7, Canada (sales@ere.umontreal.ca) or Dr Kamini Adhikari, 4F Hemchaya, 40 Ironside Rd., Calcutta 700 019, India (fax 91 33 748490).

Bibliothek Sozialwissenschaftlicher Emigranten (Library of Émigré Social Scientists)

This series makes available works of former Austrian or German social scientists who were forced to leave their country during the Nazi period. It is primarily concerned with works which were written at the beginning of the emigration period, or deal with topics such as totalitarianism, authoritarianism, prejudice, the roots of anti-Semitism, or academic freedom, but each volume should also try to present an overview of the oeuvre of the scholar in question. Papers which remain unpublished should especially be considered. In addition to the selected papers, each volume will present a biographical sketch and an evaluation of the work from a present-day viewpoint. Some thematic readers with contributions from various authors will also appear. Each volume will be of about 350 pages, including a 50-page introduction and a bibliography. Volumes so far are: Marie Jahoda, Sozialpsychologie der Politik und Kultur, ed. C. Fleck (1994); Emil Lederer, Der Massenstaat: Gefahren der klassenlosen Gesellschaft, ed. Claus-Dieter Krohn (1995); Else Frenkel-Brunswik, Studien zur autoritären Persönlichkeit, ed. Dietmar Paier (1996), all published by Nausner & Nausner, Wien. The series is edited by Christian Fleck, with the cooperation of Mitchell Ash, Claus-Dieter Krohn, Edith Kurzweil, Helga Nowotny and Friedrich Stadler; the editorial assistant is

Reinhard Müller. Dr Fleck is open to suggestions of further authors; he can be contacted at Institute for Sociology, University of Graz, Universitätsstrasse 15, A 8010 Graz, Austria - e mail, christian.fleck@kfunigraz.ac.at

Christian Fleck's new address is shown above; his new fax is +43 316 380 9515.

Maarten Mentzel's new address is School of Systems Engineering, Policy Analysis and Management, Delft University of Technology, PO Box 5015, 2600 GA Delft, The Netherlands; fax +31 15 278 4811, e mail maartenm@sepa.tudelft.nl

Salvino Salvaggio's new address is: Dept. de Sciences Sociales, Université de Liège, Bd du Rectorat 7 B31, 4000 Liège, BELGIUM, e mail ssalvaggio@arcadis.be.

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Leo P. Chall Dissertation Fellowship

This fellowship has been awarded to Dietmar Paier, of the University of Graz; our congratulations to him, and best wishes for the completion of his doctoral work.

The fellowship will be available again next year; it awards \$5000 to a PhD candidate writing a dissertation which is a contribution to the history of sociology. Full details will be given in a poster to be circulated later; the application deadline will be in July of next year, and the fellowship will be awarded in November 1997.

This is an excellent opportunity for any student. Make sure that your good students know about it, and look out for the details to pass on to them.

New members and their interests

The purpose of this list is to enable members with related interests to contact each other. If new members have not yet sent any information, they are not listed here. Anyone who has not done so is warmly invited to send details of their historical interests and work in progress for a future listing.

Vera Vratusa-Zunjic (Faculty of Philosophy, Cika Ljubina 18-20, 11000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia; e mail ratusaz@afrodita.rcub.bg.ac.yu) Interaction of Marxism, Weberianism and Parsonianism.



Recent publications by members



- Paolo Barbesino and
Salvino Salvaggio (eds.) Niklas Luhmann en perspective (special issue of Recherches Sociologiques, vol. 27: 2, 1996; it includes a general bibliography of Luhmann's work.)
- Jacques Coenen-Huther Bulgaria at the Crossroads (New York: Nova Science Publishers, 1996)
- Christian Fleck Wege zur Soziologie nach 1945: Autobiographische Notizen (Leverkusen: Leske & Budrich, 1996).
- Christian Fleck 'Autochthone Provinzialisierung: Universität und Wissenschaftspolitik nach dem Ende der nationalsozialistischen Herrschaft in Österreich', Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichts-
wissenschaften 7:67-92, 1996.
- Christian Fleck 'Emigration of social scientists' schools from Austria', pp. 198-223 in ed. Mitchell G. Ash and Alfons Söllner, Forced Migration and Scientific Change (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996.)
- Carsten Klingemann Soziologie im Dritten Reich (Baden-Baden: Nomos, 1996).
- Carsten Klingemann, Jahrbuch für Soziologiegeschichte 1994 (Opladen, Leske + Michael Neumann, Budrich, 1996); this contains material, by RCHS members and Karl-Siegbert Rehberg and others, on Simmel; Booth; modernity, ethnicity and conflict; Ilja Srubar and Erhard Heinz Maus; Joseph Maier; Marie Jahoda and the Frankfurt School.
- Stölting (eds.) 'Sciences sociales et mythe de leur fondation', Utinam 14-15: 243-248, 1995.
- Salvino Salvaggio & Paolo Barbesino (eds.) The autopoietic systems theory and the system of science: collected papers on Niklas Luhmann (special issue of Social Science Information, vol. 35: 2, 1996.
- Antoni Sulek 'Paul Lazarsfeld and Polish sociology: a history of contact, perception and impact' (in Polish), pp. 37-54, ed. K. Gorlach and Z. Serega, Oblicza Społeczeństwa, Cracow: Jagiellonian University Press, 1996.
- Masayuki Yamashita 'La sociologie française entre Auguste Comte et Emile Durkheim: Emile Littré et ses collaborateurs', L'Année Sociologique 45: 83-115, 1995. (Dr Yamashita would be pleased to have e mail comments: hfb03326@niftyserve.or.jp)

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DUES INFORMATION

The basic RCHS subscription is \$10 for one year, or \$30 for 4 years. For students, however, it is \$5 or \$15. This reduced rate also applies to others from non-OECD countries who would have difficulty in paying the full rate; if unable to arrange even the reduced rate, please write to the Secretary to explain the circumstances and ask for free membership. RCHS is a Research Committee of ISA, so RCHS members are expected to be ISA members.

We now have a facility for paying to the central ISA, which will enable those who wish to do so to use a credit card; a copy of their form is attached to enable you to do this, and it can be used even if you are not then also paying the ISA subscription - though only if you are an ISA member. Here - with apologies for the complexity, which our need to avoid our account's high foreign-exchange charges makes necessary - is how to pay if *not* doing so

via the ISA. **Only people using a British bank account should send their dues to the Secretary**; this can be done either by sending a cheque made out to "RCHS Platt", or by direct transfer to Girobank account 12 574 8302. (The cheque should be in £ sterling, with the dollar amount translated into the equivalent at the tourist rate of exchange; at the time of writing, that is c. £6.20 or £18.60.) **All other members should send the money to Prof. Dirk Kaesler**, Universität Marburg, Institut für Soziologie, Am Grün 1, D 35037 Marburg, Germany, or, in continental Europe, to minimize bank charges use the Postal Giro Service: Postgiroamt München (BLZ 700 100 80), Account 822 22-809 Kaesler RCHS. He will inform the Secretary, so only one letter is required - but **please think at the same time of sending her news of publications, meetings, work in progress etc., plus any address changes.**

Membership in the RCHS is open to anyone interested in the field. You become a member as soon as your application form and money have been received.

RCHS membership application or renewal

PLEASE TYPE, OR PRINT CLEARLY

Title and name :.....

Mailing address:

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Major interests in the history of sociology:

.....

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Historical work in progress:.....

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I do not object to my membership details being held on computer.