



Newsletter

November 2010

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Secretary of the RCHS

Per Wisselgren
Department of Sociology
Umeå University
SE-901 87 Umeå, Sweden
E-mail: per.wisselgren@soc.umu.se
Phone: +46 90 786517



Editorial

This is the first issue after the World Congress in Gothenburg and with the new RCHS Board. As the new Secretary I would like to take the opportunity and thank the outgoing Secretary Andreas Hess for his help in making the transition as smooth as possible. I also plan to follow pretty much in the footsteps of Andreas and the former secretaries when it comes to the outline and contents of the Newsletter. Hence, this issue contains more or less the same sections as usual: a message from our new President Peter Baehr; a presentation of the new Board; reports from the World Congress; minutes from the Business Meeting; information about the Interim conference in Dublin in 2012 as well as other upcoming RCHS-related events; a list of recent publications, etc. But the traditional outlook of this Newsletter does not, of course, mean that new ideas and inputs are not welcome. Quite the opposite. Should you have any suggestions for how to renew and develop the Newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me, Peter Baehr or any of the other board members. Actually, in between the traditional sections, you will also find some glimpses of renewal, such as the new RCHS prize; an initiative to build up a new RCHS-related database; information about the new RCHS bank account; and last but not least, as an appendix, a full list of all RCHS members – in order to make it possible for you to check and, if needed, correct and update your membership details, but also to encourage those of you, whose memberships have lapsed, to renew them. The next issue of the Newsletter is scheduled for May 2011. You are all welcome to submit ideas, information about RCHS-related news or anything else that might be of interest to our research community by then.



President's message

by Peter Baehr

Dear Colleagues,

It was a great pleasure meeting many of you at the Congress in Gothenburg in July. It was equally pleasurable getting a sense of the many-sided interests – and perspectives – that we historians of sociology have today.

Much of sociology has been harmed by strong ideological partisanship. And each of us, naturally, has his or her own political commitments. But the history of sociology gives us a viewpoint to go beyond current preoccupations - knowing precisely that they are current. The history of sociology also allows us to avoid the worst aspects of what Gary Saul Morson – the Slavic scholar at Northwestern – calls “chronocentrism”: the conceit of the contemporary age that it is superior to the past in morals, practice and wisdom. In *Narrative and Freedom. The Shadows of Time* (Yale University Press: 1994), Morson draws on the work of Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky to propose a different approach to our own time. These writers were not only acutely aware that current outcomes of history were not the only possible outcomes; that viewpoint, today, is a banality. They also suggested other ways of looking at ourselves. For instance, we might wish to “reverse the process of judging earlier ages in our own terms by imagining how people of the past would have judged us in theirs. What benefits and virtues have

our own most cherished values and practices led us to overlook, forego, or underestimate. Although it is natural and agreeable to assume the role of prosecutor, it is also helpful to become a defendant attacked by a talented attorney with the values of another times and culture” (p. 281). If I cite Morson’s book, it is because I think it is among the best things ever written on conceptions of time, some of which are injurious to the historical mind (for instance, the teleological distortion of “foreshadowing” in which events appear to be drawn into being because of ones that have not yet happened) and some which are stimulative of the historical mind (notably, “sideshadowing” which projects from the side, as it were, “the shadow of an alternative present”).

Still, I suppose that we are not talking about an alternative present in 2012 but are looking to the near certainty, barring cataclysm, that we will meet in Dublin for the ISA Interim Conference! I hope to see you there. And, please, do one thing for the Research Committee: introduce other people to it and encourage them to join. The issue is not simple numbers or brute size. It is rather that an influx of new members often means an influx of new ideas and energies.

With best wishes for the New Year that will soon be upon us.



Presentation of the new RCHS Board 2010-14

President

PETER BAEHR is Academic Dean of Social Science, and Chair Professor of Social Theory, at Lingnan University (Hong Kong). He is also Raymond Aron Fellow of the Institute for the Advancement of the Social Sciences at Boston University. Peter writes on the history of social and political thought, and is best known for his work on Max Weber and Hannah Arendt. More recently, he has begun to engage with the impact of Islamist movements on Western cultural mores. His latest work is on the anathematization of political disagreement found in such terms as "Islamophobia" and "homophobia." Part of this work will appear in 2011 in a special issue of the Journal of Classical Sociology.

Vice-Presidents

MARCEL FOURNIER is Professor of Sociology at Université de Montréal, and a Member of the Royal Society of Canada. Among his publications are books on *Émile Durkheim* (Fayard, 2008; Engl. transl. forthcoming from Polity) and *Marcel Mauss* (Princeton UP, 2005; Chinese transl. forthcoming from Peking UP), edited or co-edited volumes on *Cultivating Differences: Symbolic Boundaries and the making of Inequalities* (with M. Lamont, Univ. of Chicago Press, 1992), *Émile Durkheim. Lettres à Marcel Mauss* (with P. Besnard, Presses Universitaires de France, 1998), *Marcel Mauss Living*, Special issue of *Sociologie et Sociétés* (with J.-C. Marcel, 2005) and *Knowledge Society, Creativity and Communication* (with A. Sales, Sage, 2007). Current research interests include: Marcel Mauss in America; Peer Evaluations in Science; Architecture and University – Recent Trends; North America and Europe: A Comparative Study.

IRMELA GORGES, Free University Berlin, Germany. Dr. Irmela Gorges, was a Professor of Sociology at the Fachhochschule für Verwaltung und Rechtspflege (FHVR) Berlin (University of Applied Sciences in Administration and Law) from 1992 until 2009, where she was Dean of the Faculty of Administration 2007–2009. She is

currently 'Privatdozentin' for Sociology at the Free University of Berlin and member of the RCHS 08, ISA, since 1986. She has been a member of the RCHS executive council since 2002. She is co-founder of the Network on the History of Empirical Social Research and Statistics and founding-member of the Congress of Political Economists (COPE). She has published books on empirical social research in Germany and several articles on a number of different research-subjects such as the history of research on computer-aided design systems, the history of bureaucracy and civil servants, non-governmental organisations between state and society and legal aid for the underprivileged. She also tries to support the position of women in the university.

Secretary

PER WISSELGREN is Lecturer at the Department of Sociology, Umeå University, Sweden. He obtained his PhD in History of Science and Ideas in 2000 and has been a member of the RCHS since 1998. Per's research interests are centred around the history and sociology of the social sciences in a broad sense, including issues related to research funding, gender, extra-academic social research, intellectuals, media, public understanding of science, and globalisation. Recent publications include a guest edited issue on the history of the social sciences of *Ideas in History* (2009) and a co-edited volume on the *History of Participatory Media* (Routledge, 2010).

Steering Committee

NILGÜN ÇELEBI is Professor of General Sociology and Methodology at Mugla University, Turkey. Member of ISA RC's History of Sociology and Sociological Theory since 1993. Her last book is entitled *Notes on Sociology*, in which she looks at foggy relationship between work-power-violence; tackles 'homo homini lupus' thesis; asks room for collective personalities in socialities; searches similarities between commodity circulation and social circulation in terms of micro-macro, event-fact,

interactional processes-social processes and institutionalized structures. Her last text on Public Sociology will be published in December 2010. Now she works on Sait Nursi, a Muslim thinker of Kurdish origin. Most of her publications are written in Turkish.

HEDVIG EKERWALD is Professor of Sociology at the Sociological Department of Uppsala University. She is the Editor of the referee journal of Swedish sociologists, *Sociologisk Forskning*. She is also a member of the Academic Senate and a member of the Faculty board of Educational Sciences of Uppsala University. She has been awarded the Pedagogical Prize of Uppsala university (1995). Her research interests and publications are within the fields of youth and feminist research, methodology and the history of sociology. Recent publications include two books – *To Live Your Own Life and Still Keep Your Family* (in Swedish, 2004) and *Every Mother is a Daughter: On Women's Youth Period in the 20th Century* (in Swedish, 2002/2007) – and a number of articles on, among other things, Alva Myrdal in *Acta Sociologica, International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society* and in *Academics as Public Intellectuals*, eds. Eliaeson and Kalleberg (2008).

JOHAN HEILBRON is a historical sociologist at the Centre Européen de Sociologie et de Science Politique (CESSP) in Paris and Erasmus University in Rotterdam. Currently finishing a book on the development of sociology in France, his research interests also include economic sociology and the sociology of art and culture. Among his publications on the social sciences are *The Rise of Social Theory* (Polity Press, 1995), *The Rise of the Social Sciences and the Formation of Modernity* (co-edited, 2001), *Pour une histoire des sciences sociales. Hommage à Pierre Bourdieu* (co-edited, 2004), “Traditions nationales en sciences sociales” (ed.), *Revue d'histoire des sciences humaines*, no. 18, 2008; “Toward a Transnational History of the Social Sciences” (co-authored), *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, 44 (2) 2008, p. 146-160, “Sociology and positivism in the nineteenth century: the vicissitudes of the Société de sociologie (1872-1874),” *History of the Human Sciences*, 22 (4), 2009, p. 30-62. Website: <http://www.eur.nl/fsw/staff/homepages/heilbron/>.

LAURENT JEANPIERRE is a sociologist and Professor of Political Science at Université Paris 8 (Vincennes-St-Denis). He is interested in the history and the sociology of the social sciences. Some of his research dealt with the history and the sociology of French social sciences in the 20th Century and with patterns of internationalization of the social sciences. He was the scientific advisor for the last *World Social Science Report*, 2010 (<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/resources/reports/world-social-science-report>). Since 2009, he is in charge of the research network on “sociology of intellectuals and expert knowledge” for the Association française de sociologie (French sociological association).

E. STINA LYON is Professor (Emerita) at London South Bank University, UK. Her research interests are in the areas of the history of sociology, social research methods, welfare state studies and gender. Her publications more recently include several articles on the Swedish social scientists and social reformers Gunnar and Alva Myrdal and their contribution to sociology, and on the Austrian-British sociologist, Viola Klein, one time joint author with Alva Myrdal. Most recent publications are the co-edited volume (with Christian Fleck and Andreas Hess) *Intellectuals and their Publics: Perspectives from the Social Sciences* (Ashgate 2009) in which she has an article, and an article on the Myrdals in C. Schrecker (ed.) *Transatlantic Voyages and Sociology* (Ashgate, 2010). She is an Academician of the UK Academy of the Social Sciences.

HANS-PETER MÜLLER is Professor of general sociology at Humboldt University Berlin since 1992. His main areas of research are social theory (classical and contemporary) and history of sociology, social inequality, political sociology and sociology of culture. Major publications: *Sozialstruktur und Lebensstile*. Frankfurt/M.: Suhrkamp 1997 (4th. ed.); *Sozialer Wandel*. Frankfurt/M.: Suhrkamp 1995 (co-ed. with Michael Schmid); *Hauptwerke sozialer Ungleichheitsforschung*. Opladen: Westdeutscher Verlag 2003 (co-ed. with Michael Schmid); *Encyclopedia of Social Theory*. London/New York: Routledge & Kegan Paul 2006 (ed. with Austin Harrington and Barbara Marshall); *Die europäische Gesellschaft* (co-ed. with Robert Hettlage). Konstanz: UVK 2006; *Max Weber*.

Köln/Weimar/Wien: Böhlau Verlag 2007. Currently, he prepares a "Handbook on Max Weber".

CHERRY SCHRECKER is Senior Lecturer at the University of Nancy, France, and member of the research laboratory LASURES-2L2S. She has received a delegation to the CNRS for the year 2010-2011 at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Lorraine, USR 3261. Her principal research interests are situated around the history of sociology; the history of scientific and educative institutions; epistemological concerns linked to the development of sociological ideas; deviance, norms and social relations. Recent publications include: Schrecker Cherry (ed.), *Transatlantic Voyages and Sociology: The migration and development of ideas*, Aldershot, Ashgate (2010); *Contribution à la sociologie de l'action: Alfred Schütz, translation and introduction*, Paris, Hermann (2009); "Textbooks and Sociology: a franco-british comparison", *Current Sociology* 36:2 (2008); *La communauté: histoire critique d'un concept sociologique*, Paris, l'Harmattan (2006).

ELEANOR TOWNSLEY is Professor and Chair of Sociology and Professor of Gender Studies at Mount Holyoke College, USA. She is interested in the role of intellectuals and ideas in social change. Her current research examines the nature and influence of media intellectuals in the contemporary United States. Townsley's research has been published in the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Theory & Society*, *Theory, Culture & Society*, *Gender and Society*, *Thesis Eleven*, and *New Left Review*. She is a contributor to the *Handbook of Economic Sociology*, *The Oxford Handbook of Cultural Sociology* and coauthor of *Making Capitalism without Capitalists* (Verso 1998) and *The Space of Opinion: Media Intellectuals and the Public Sphere* (Oxford 2011).

STEPHEN P. TURNER is Graduate Research Professor of Philosophy at the University of

South Florida. He has written extensively on Weber, including such books as *Max Weber and the Dispute over Reason and Value* (with Regis Factor); *The Search for a Methodology of Social Science: Durkheim, Weber, and the Nineteenth Century Problem of Cause, Probability, and Action*; *Max Weber: The Lawyer as Social Thinker* (with Regis Factor); and *The Cambridge Companion to Weber* (2000). He has also written extensively on the history of statistics, Durkheim, foundations and sociology, and Columbia sociology. *The Impossible Science: An Institutional History of American Sociology* (1990), co-authored with Jonathan Turner, is the standard history of American Sociology. He has had fellowships from the (US) National Endowment for the Humanities and the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences.

GINA ZABLUDOVSKY KUPER has a PhD in Sociology and is tenured professor and researcher at the Department of Social and Political Science at the *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México* where she teaches sociological theory (classics, contemporaries and sociology in Mexico). Her main areas of interest are history of social sciences in Mexico, sociological theory, and women in business. She is the author of several articles and books in these fields. Some titles of her books are: *La dominación patrimonial en la obra de Max Weber* (Max Weber's notion of patrimonialism, 1989); *Patrimonialismo y modernización* (Patrimonialism and modernization, 1993); *Sociología y política: el debate clásico y contemporáneo* (Sociology and politics, classics and contemporaries, 1995 and 2002); *Norbert Elias y la los problemas actuales de la sociología* (N. Elias and contemporary social problems); *Intelectuales y burocracia* (Intellectuals and bureaucracy, 2009); *Modernidad y globalización* (Globalization and modernity, 2010). As an editor she has published several books such as *La sociedad a través de los clásicos: Teoría sociológica y modernidad* (1998) and *Sociología y cambio conceptual* (2007).



Three Reports from the ISA World Congress in Gothenburg

RCHS at the Gothenburg ISA Congress

by Jarosław Kiliński

The Research Committee on the History of Sociology organized fourteen sessions at the ISA Congress in Gothenburg. All took place at Campus Linné, relatively far from the central Congress venue, Svenska Mässan. As there were some others interest fields and meetings I wanted to attend, I was not able to participate in all of our sessions. Therefore, I am able to present just a few impressions about those in which I participated. The first of them (and the first RCHS's meeting at the Gothenburg Congress) was the one entitled *Agenda Settings for National Sociologies*, presided by Jennifer Platt and Charles Crothers on Monday, July 12 at 15.30. Five papers were presented there, and first of them was Jennifer Platt's piece on unsuccessful attempts of the British Economic & Social Research Council to intensify and improve quantitative research in Great Britain. Later on Charles Crothers offered a more general view on agenda setting mechanisms in Anglo-Saxon countries, while Zohreh Bayatrizi's paper (which was read by Jennifer Platt since the author was unable to come to Gothenburg) dealt with the Iranian case, in which the state was the only source of research funds and endorsed a narrow-minded, technocratic problem-oriented approach. Two other texts presented were Alexandre Pires's paper on Brazilian environmental studies, as well as Albert Tzeng's study of an outcome of "managerialist" and "globalist" university reforms, and especially of the introduction of quantitative (and bureaucratic) academic efficiency measurement procedures and the scholars' response to them in Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong. It is worth mentioning that Tzeng's paper was awarded the most outstanding young scholars' paper of the RCHS Gothenburg meeting.

The last two Monday sessions concerned history writing itself, and especially the role of biographies. At the first one, chaired by Cherry Schrecker, four papers were presented. The first of them was Marcel Fournier's somewhat anecdotal account of his work on the biography of Marcel Mauss, and the second Suzie Guth's intriguing narrative on the less known, yet important German and Congolese episodes of Robert E. Park's life. Andreas Hess's attempted

to provide biographical history writing with some theoretical reflection, and Hedvig Ekervald compared Toril Moi's Simone de Beauvoir biography and Yvonne Hirdman's work on Alva Myrdal in order to grasp the authors' respective methods. The second session, presided by Suzie Guth, started with Anne Collinot's paper loosely based on her research on the history of computer science in which obituaries served as one of the main sources. Afterwards Shoji Ishituka traced the intellectual connection between Lukács and Mannheim, while Cherry Schrecker attempted to assess the usefulness of biography as a genre in the history of sociology. The two last papers concerned other topics – I discussed the development of Czech and Polish histories of "classical" sociology while Ivan Eliab Gomez Aquillar diagnosed late-twentieth century Mexican sociology. During the final discussion Ishituka reminded about the Znaniecki and Thomas's sociological tradition of biographical research. His remark may serve as a general conclusion of the whole session set: the answer whether the biographical research is useful or not is definitely positive. Nevertheless, the next step should be taken to provide it with more advanced theoretical and methodological instruments, which seem to be still missing and which may be found in the sociological tradition of biographical research – and not only the old, Polish-American one.

Another RCHS session I attended took place on Tuesday, 13 at 15.30 with Theresa Wobbe as a chairperson, and was entitled *The Entangled History of Gender and Sociology*. The first speaker was Per Wisselgren who compared three Swedish social reformer and social science pioneer couples – the Wicksells, the Steffens and the Cassels. In all three cases women, who were social reformers themselves, decidedly contributed to their men's careers. The second speaker, Thomas Lenz, presented an impressive paper about the role played by sociologists (Veblen, Simmel and Sombart) in the debate on department stores which took place in the late-nineteen century Germany. The discussion on department stores in fact concerned the presence of women in the public sphere, and sociologists contributed to it providing some of the intellectual instruments used to medicalize/patologize the public presence of women. Marcel Rebenack tracked down traces

of Spencer's ideas concerning social differentiation in Simmel's writings, while Isabelle Berrebi-Hoffmann and Michel Lallement presented some of the results of their research on the attitudes of Durkheim and the Durkheimian School towards the woman question. They found that Durkheim himself was probably highly concerned with this social problem of the time, as he reviewed a great number of books on this topic in his *L'Année sociologique*. Some younger Durkheimians being moderate feminists also showed some interest in the women question.

The last sessions I was able to attend took place on Thursday, July 15, and it was a two-part meeting on national traditions and trajectories presided by Christian Fleck. The first one started at 10.45 with an optimistic overview of Polish sociology up to the Second World War, presented by Włodzimierz Winclawski (in fact read by his daughter, Maria Winclawska). He was followed by Marek Skovajsa's paper about the ways in which Czech scholars had coped with the regime after the fall of the Prague spring – until the late 1980's. His study was based upon the analysis of quotations in the main Czech sociological journal, *Sociologický časopis*. Marcio de Oliveira spoke about the unexpected results of UNESCO research in Brazil in the 1960's, which instead of expected ethnic harmony discovered racism oriented against the Poles. The last speaker, Larisa Titarenko, offered a broad view on the development of Russian and Belarussian Sociology in the post-communist period.

The second part was no less interesting. It was opened by Kristoffer Kropp's paper dealing with the results of his comprehensive study of the Danish sociological field. Kropp analysed the academic capital and the strategies of Danish scholars, as well as their research fields and theoretical preferences. Unfortunately, due to its scale and thoroughness, the project turned out to be too extensive to be presented in just one paper at one conference. An interesting pendant to Kropp's paper was a historical overview of the rise, crisis and fall of the Danish activist sociology of the 1970's (which resulted in the closing of the university sociology departments, and the re-establishment of sociology on a new basis in 1980's), presented by Hans Petter Sand. Before that João Maia had presented an interesting paper on the idea of internal colonialization of the Brazilian interior, provided by the state-sponsored social science institutions. The last speaker was Kirsten Harley, who

examined Australian sociology considering that since the early twentieth century sociology was continuously present at the University of Sydney, even though a separate sociology department was established only at the end of the century.

However interesting the papers on national traditions and trajectories might have been, there seems to exist a need for a research that would go beyond the discussion of individual cases – a broader comparative study on international developments and influence paths.

Although no single person is able to assess the whole congress, the RCHS sessions belonged to the most interesting among those I attended at the Gothenburg congress. As much as it is possible at a conference of this type we managed to avoid eclecticism, and the main problem we encountered was the one typical for most sociological conferences – tight schedules resulting in the briefness of papers and a relative lack of time which did not leave much space for discussion.



Notes from a newcomer in the RC08, or Impressions from the ISA conference

by Kristoffer Kropp

The conference in Gothenburg was my very first ISA conference. Regarded with the eyes of a young scholar the ISA conference is like a sociological amusement park, a place filled with interesting and tempting events that you can (and should) expose your self to, but also with a risk of getting a little seasick on the sociological roller-coaster. To prevent a sociological hangover I followed the RC08 sessions (more or less) through the whole conference. These are my impressions of and thoughts on the event.

The overall impression from the sessions that I participated in is that there is a rather large number of sociologists looking into the history of their discipline in different and often interesting ways and that a large number of them has important sociological stories to tell. These stories turned out to be very diverse, both regarding the topics and the analytical frameworks. The presentations thus varied from profound theoretical considerations on how to study and explain problematics within sociology of sociology to detailed empirical studies on specific historical events and processes in the history of sociology and neighboring disciplines. What of course united these two different kinds

of sociological contributions is that they, when being well crafted, were both thought-provoking and sociologically useful.

Looking back at the program and my memory notes some presentations seem to be interrelated in more or less explicit ways. I will try to give some examples on that. On Thursday morning Christian Dayé presented a paper on the development and unsuccessful distribution of the method of political gaming at the RAND corporation, and later Danilo Mandic gave a presentation on the reception of C.W. Mills' 'Power elites' in sociology and political science. Both of these presentations, like a couple of others, thus dealt empirically with the relative success or failure of contributions within the social sciences. A similar problematique was also addressed in more theoretical or conceptual presentations like Andreas Hess' on biographies and sociology of ideas and Dominik Bartmanski's attempt to theorize the process of how to become an iconic social thinker.

Many other similar linkages were possible to find between the different sessions and presentations. Here I will highlight only one such conversation which I found important and interesting both for intellectual and more 'political' reasons. The topic concerned the relationship between the organization of intellectual institutions (often within the nation-state but increasingly on a 'globalised' level) and the shift of the mode of sociological production. On this topic both Jennifer Platt's presentation on the attempts at strengthening quantitative methods in UK sociology and Albert Tzeng's paper on the effect of new managerial reforms on sociology in South East Asia – both papers from the very first session – come to my mind, but also Marek Skovajsa's interesting presentation on the changes of the 'rhetorical style' and citation patterns in Czech sociology in relation to the 1989 changes, which empirically addressed the general question about the changing relationship between institutional structures and sociological production. Other presentations could just as well have been mentioned to illustrate this point.

As a new scholar I did not only appreciate the different interesting sociological contributions to the sessions, but also the constructive and critical comments from the members of the committee both during the sessions and afterwards. I think the constructive and interested debates that I experienced at the conference is a quality that is important to hold

on to and preserve to secure an interesting and challenging debate.

Finally, I cannot restrict myself from giving a few critical comments and point at areas that I believe could be further strengthened. To put it very short my reflection concerns the relationship between the history of sociology and sociology as a field of intellectual formation, and the way these two entities inflict with each other. There is an obvious risk for history of sociology (and other social sciences as well) that it might be reduced, and reduce itself, to a mere book-keeper of the discipline which narrates the official story of the discipline. In that respect I think it is important to underline that we do not only tell an interesting and funny story of the discipline, but also insist on our ability to provide theoretical concepts and new modes of thinking that arise from our research. In that way we may be able to contribute to the way sociology is done and thought about, by scrutinizing both historical and contemporary modes of doing and thinking sociology.



Report from the XVII ISA Congress at Gothenburg

by Marcia Consolim

Large international congresses are usually valued for providing outlets for sociability and for encouraging contact between scholars rather than for stimulating debate and learning. My impression of the XVII ISA Congress was much more positive than this common view, probably because of my experience as a participant and speaker at the RC 08 – History of Sociology. Presentations at this RC addressed questions that are relevant for the social history of the human sciences, for sociological theory, and for the methodology of the social sciences; the debates that followed provided room for constructive criticism, information exchange, suggestions for further research, and background questions that were pertinent to the "sociologist's craft." Andreas Hess and Christian Fleck's coordination was exemplary, particularly with regard to organization, harmonious group work, openness to theoretical diversity, and, above all, intellectual competence. In fact, one of the most remarkable aspects of RC 08 was the existence of a group of intellectuals who have worked with it for years, a group which, highly attuned and qualified, helped maintain the high

level of the debates. Finally, I must say that sociability left nothing wanting: I was very kindly welcomed at many “night tables” – occasions for

cultural extension crash courses, fostered by the intellectual exchanges that took place along the day.



Minutes from the RCHS Business Meeting in Gothenburg, Sweden, 15 July 2010

The Business Meeting was held in conjunction with the ISA World Congress of Sociology at Annedalsseminariet, Gothenburg, Thursday 15 July, 17.45-19.45. The meeting was chaired by the outgoing Secretary Andreas Hess and President Christian Fleck. Approximately some 20-25 members attended. A preliminary agenda had been distributed prior to the meeting in the June issue of the RCHS Newsletter.

§1 Items not on the agenda

A few items were added to the agenda: information about the ISA elections (see §6); information about other upcoming events (besides the Interim Conference), including the ISA Forum 2012 (see §4).

§2 Brief report from the acting secretary

Andreas Hess reported that RCHS currently includes some 90 members in good standing.

The RCHS bank account in Dublin currently counts € 3,960. This sum, however, includes the prize sum (€ 500) for the winner of the RCHS Young Scholars Competition, which will be disbursed shortly after the Congress.

The outgoing President and Secretary summarized the RCHS activities of the past four years. The main event during the period was the 2008 Interim Conference at Umeå University, Sweden. The conference resulted in a number of publications, some already published and other forthcoming: Raewyn Connell’s keynote lecture has been published in the Swedish Sociological Association’s journal *Sociologisk Forskning*; Johan Heilbron’s keynote lecture (co-authored) in *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*; some of the Nordic papers has been included in a thematic issue of the journal *Ideas in History*. Another thematic issue, of *Comparative Sociology*, is being prepared by Andreas Hess and Christian Fleck.

Two other, closely RCHS-related publications are: *Transatlantic Voyages and Sociology*,

ed. Cherry Schrecker (Ashgate, 2010), which springs from the conference held in Nancy 2007, co-supported by RCHS, and *New Europe: Growth to Limits?*, ed. Sven Eliaeson & Nadezhda Georgieva (Bardwell Press, 2010). (See more info on the publications in the New publications section of this Newsletter.)

§3 Welcoming the new RCHS Board

The new RCHS board for the period 2010-14 was presented:

President: Peter Baehr, Lingnan University, Hong Kong*

Vice-Presidents: Marcel Fournier, Université de Montreal, Canada*; Irmela Gorges, Germany*

Secretary: Per Wisselgren, Umea University, Sweden*

Steering Committee: Nilgun Celebi, Ankara University, Turkey*; Hedvig Ekerwald, Uppsala University, Sweden; Johan Heilbron, Netherlands*; Laurent Jeanpierre, France*; E. Stina Lyon, London South Bank University, UK; Hans-Peter Mueller, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany*; Cherry Schrecker, France; Eleanor Townsley, USA; Stephen Turner, University of South Florida, USA*; Gina Zabłudovsky, Mexico.

Among these the star-marked (*) are new in office.

On behalf of Peter Baehr (who was unable to attend the BM due to a clash in the programme with the ISA elections) and the rest of the new board, Per Wisselgren expressed many thanks to the outgoing President, Secretary and other executive members for their great job in office.

Andreas Hess commented on the procedures of the nomination and election (see also Andreas’ comments in the January 2010 issue of the Newsletter on this) and the need to improve this process in order to make it more efficient and transparent in the future. A concrete and complicating circumstance is that our current

RGHS statutes, states that the election should be conducted in the year preceding the World Congress, whereas other research committees apparently have chosen the maybe more practical version of conducting the elections at place. We decided to keep this question in mind and discuss it further (preferable at the next business meeting in Dublin) in order to improve the procedure before the next election.

§4 Interim conference in Dublin 2012

In accordance with the proposal at the latest Business Meeting 2008 in Umeå, it was decided that the next RGHS Interim Conference will take place in Dublin and that Andreas Hess will be the local organiser of that event. Andreas informed about the plans, the preliminary contacts taken and the good infrastructures of the location. Preliminary the timing of the conference will be in late June 2012. More information will come regarding the practical details.

A number of possible session topics were proposed (see "List of proposed sessions for the Dublin meeting" below in this Newsletter).

Regarding the process of selection among the proposed sessions it was clarified that the next step will be that we distribute a list of the suggested sessions, but also make an additional call for session proposals, including further instructions (regarding title, length, deadline, etc). All proposals should be sent to both Andreas Hess and Per Wisselgren. After having settled the session proposals there will be a call for papers in relation to the session topics, followed by a selection process based on submitted papers etc (i.e. pretty much "as usual"). Hedvig Ekerwald suggested that we should check up if it would be possible to advertise the call for papers in ISA:s electronic bulletin *isagram*.

Christian Fleck informed about the ISA Forum, which was launched as a new initiative in 2008 in order to arrange a meeting ground for the research committees in between the world congresses. The first Forum was held in Barcelona in 2008. The place of the next ISA Forum had not been formally decided by the time of the business meeting, although the preliminary plan was to locate it in Paris. (In the meantime, however, the new ISA Executive Committee has decided to open up the election process and now plan to have a decision made on the time and place of the ISA Forum 2012 by January 15, 2011.) Since the Forum primarily is meant to encourage those research committees

which do not usually meet in between the world congresses, Christian spoke in favour of keeping our own interim conferences as they are. It might however be worth to take notice about the timing of the ISA Forum 2012 and, if possible, adjust the timing of our Interim Conference to make it easier for far away delegates to attend both events.

Suzie Guth informed about an other RGHS-related upcoming, an international conference on "Saul Alinsky: a rebel or an organizer", to be held at Université de Strasbourg, 9-10 september 2011 (see more info below in the section on Upcoming events of this Newsletter).

§5 Announcement of the winner of the RGHS Young Scholars Competition

As announced in the latest Newsletter, the RGHS has decided to install a new prize (€ 500) for the best paper submitted to any of the RGHS sessions by young scholars (i.e. PhD candidates or with their PhD degrees from 2007 or later). The prize jury consisted of Christian Fleck, Irmela Gorges and Marcel Fournier.

The winner of the prize was announced and congratulated: Albert Tzeng, PhD Student in Sociology, University of Warwick, UK, for the paper "Managerialism, Academic Globalism and the Impacts on Sociology: Comparison of Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore"! (For an abstract of the winning paper, see below.)

§6 Any other businesses

Per Wisselgren gave a short report from the elections of the new ISA President and Vice-Presidents:

President: Michael Burawoy, University of California, Berkeley, USA.

Vice-President (Research): Margaret Abraham, Hofstra University, USA.

Vice-President (National Associations): Tina Uys, University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Vice-President (Programme): Raquel Sosa, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico.

Vice-President (Publications): Jennifer Platt, University of Sussex, England.

Vice-President (Finance and Membership): Robert Van Krieken, University College Dublin, Ireland.

The Business Meeting especially congratulated the longstanding member and former President of RGHS, Jennifer Platt, for being elected as the ISA Vice-President of Publications!

Per Wisselgren informed that the next Newsletter is being scheduled to November and encouraged everybody to submit articles, information about new publications or any other RCHS-relevant information to be shared to the RCHS community.

§7 Close of meeting

Andreas Hess and Christian Fleck formally closed the Business Meeting. The meeting was traditionally followed up by an informal dinner, practically coordinated by Hedvig Ekerwald, at the Restaurant Tvåkanten.



Abstract of the winning paper of the RCHS Young Scholars Competition: "Managerialism, Academic Globalism, and Impact on Sociology: Comparison of Taiwan Hong Kong and Singapore"

by Albert Tzeng, University of Warwick

The higher education funding/governing bodies across many Asian societies have since the mid 1990s adopted more business-style discourses and various initiatives aimed at boosting the 'academic productivity,' partially as responses to the perception of growing international competition. Less known is how the rise of 'managerialism' and 'academic globalism' were reshaping on the intellectual life of domestic sociologists, and consequently the trajectories of national sociologies. Based on 59 interviews with sociologists in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore, I shall in this paper provide a critical assessment how these perceived changes were shaping their professional practices, and compare the inter-case differences for an informed analysis of the relationship between sociologists and the host societies. The major findings should be summarized in three arguments: (1) The introduction of various managerislist practices and the internationally-oriented

publication incentives has caused, among its mixed implications, a significant degree of perceived discrimination against certain type of publication (book, or non-English publication) and even research (e.g. theoretical, ethnographic), discouragement on teaching and public engagement, and some impacts on collegiality. (2) Particularly in the case of Hong Kong and Singapore, there were indications that these changes are leading to the restructuring of sociological knowledge-flow in a way that could be criticized as both 'being lifted-up from the local' and 'reproducing an imperial gaze.'(3) The responses of sociologists in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore can be characterized, respectively, as 'resistant and negotiating', 'compliant thought reluctantly,' and 'supportive with a minor degree of reservation.' These contrasts derive from the difference in political context, identity politics, and ultimately, the post-war geopolitics.



ISA RCHS Interim Conference
University College Dublin (27-30 June 2012)
"CHANGING UNIVERSITIES: CHANGING SOCIOLOGY"

by Andreas Hess

At the university level we are experiencing radical changes at all levels and in all countries and cultures. It is time to think about the impact these changes had and continue to have on the discipline. Is there a general, maybe even universal trend to these changes? Can any particular or unique developments be detected? What role do cultures, states and national peculiarities play in this development? And how do they impact on the many sociological traditions? In order to comprehensively understand what is going on at present and what is likely to happen in the future we will also have to look at how changes in higher education have impacted on sociology in the past.

Suggested main speakers (NOT confirmed): Andrew Abbott (Sociology, University of Chicago); Luc Boltanski (Sociology, L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris); Daniel Gordon (History, University of Massachusetts); Judith Stacey (Sociology, NYU)

List of proposed sessions for the Dublin meeting

The session proposals listed below are placed in the order in which the short descriptions have been submitted and were suggested from the floor at the Business Meeting in Gothenburg. Further session proposals are welcome! Please submit your proposal – including a title and a short, c. 150 words description – to *both* Andreas Hess (a.hess@ucd.ie) and Per Wisselgren (per.wisselgren@soc.umu.se) before 30 April 2011! The final list of proposed session will be included in the next issue of the Newsletter (in May) and a Call for Papers sent out in relation to that. The selection of the sessions will primarily be based on the number of submitted paper proposals.

1. History of Sociology in Ireland I: Irish Sociology and its audiences (Andreas Hess: a.hess@ucd.ie)

In this session we look at the various publics that Irish sociology catered for: first in the 19th century as a prototype sociology under semi-colonial structures, then in the 20th Century first for the emerging Irish State after independence, then for the Catholic Church, and then, towards the end of the 20th century, for a mix of mainly policy interested institutions

2. History of Sociology in Ireland II: Irish Sociology: Themes and Issues, Policies and Problems (Andreas Hess: a.hess@ucd.ie)

This session addresses the many themes and Issues, the various policies and problems that have preoccupied Irish sociology since its inception.

3. Managerialism and Its Impact on Sociology (Andreas Hess: a.hess@ucd.ie)

In this session we look at the pressures that come from a number of sources, (new public management, ever more bureaucratic administration, new governmental structures, the search for professionalism) and how they impact on sociological research and teaching and the ever increasing administrative tasks of sociologists.

4. Changes in Higher Education and Changes in Sociology (Andreas Hess: a.hess@ucd.ie)

Of what nature is the relationship between the radical changes that we can observe in Higher Education on a global scale and sociology as a discipline? How exactly can we study the impact that changes at the universities have on the discipline. Are there any specific cultural,

national or continental dimensions to these changes?

5. Sociology Outside Academia (Jennifer Platt: j.platt@sussex.ac.uk)

Social research outside academia employs many people, some but not all with degrees in sociology, but many of them producing work which can be regarded as sociological. Their settings include market research, political think tanks, Census and other government research units, commercial or non-profit general research agencies, consultancies which provide services to local government or to companies such as property developers seeking community feedback on their proposals – and so on. This session could be concerned with the character of the work which has been done in these settings and the factors which have affected its similarities to and differences from academic work (some sociologists have suggested important differences between ‘department’ and ‘research unit’ work styles), and/or with the history of the non-academic sector as a whole and the factors which have led to its development, where it publishes and how far its results have entered the sociological mainstream, how it is organised.

6. The Relativism of Concepts I: The Conceptual History of “Public Intellectual” (Sven Eliaeson: Sven.Eliaeson@soc.uu.se)

Social science/thought is a battle-field for concept formation, and some concepts will survive and some will evaporate. Socrates was a public intellectual, and the same is true of Jesus, Rousseau, Voltaire, and Gandhi. The concept has become trendy and often refers to a huge variation of personalities in various ambiances, including Richard Sennet, Ulrich Beck, Anthony Giddens, Noam Chomsky and Jürgen Habermas. Lists of the hundred most renowned public intellectuals are published after polls. Burawoy (2003) caused a debate about the role and function of public intellectuals. Historical relativism applies. Evidently public intellectuals in social science are more important after improved media techniques and a public sphere, starting in British coffee houses and further stimulated by daily newspapers, according to Hegel a replaced to God in the public sphere, as later TV, according to Habermas. There is no ideal type or taxonomy of public intellectual which is an amorphous concept, albeit always

somehow relating to the relation between the intellectuals and power.

7. The Relativism of Concepts II: What is Political Sociology? (Sven Eliaeson: Sven.Eliaeson@soc.uu.se)

Social science/thought is a battle-field for concept formation, and some concepts will survive and some will evaporate. One only has to check via www the content of syllabuses on courses in political sociology to realize that it is far from clear what the label refers to. It might deal with elites, voting behaviours, intellectuals, power distribution, economic sociology, inclusion-exclusion, etc. Max Weber, Parsons and S M Lipset are on most lists, so are Juan Linz and Robert Putnam, and bundles of studies of “civil society”. Stein Rokkan’s cleavages and stages are very important tools for comparing transformation processes. Yet, Global trends and the implosion of the “Second world” generate a certain space for innovative endeavours. In fact most ways to grasp various configurations of Modernity in an increasingly global world including multi-Modernity paradigm indicates how changed social realities call for new conceptual tools. Yet again, old ones such as “charisma” are still with us.

8. "Sociological Traditions in the Global South" (Joao Marcelo Ehlert Maia: Joao.Maia@fgv.br)

The history of European and North American sociologies are well known in the social science community, ultimately, as "the history of sociology". Conversely, we still do not know much about peripheral traditions of social thought, which are usually regarded as mere consumers and applicants of northern sociologies. This session welcomes researches that observe and analyze social science intellectual traditions of the so-called Global South. We are especially keen to encourage transnational approaches that highlight alternative circuits of intellectual communication (both South-South and South-North intellectual networks), together with studies on a national or regional scale.

9. Cold War Social Science (Christian Dayé: ch.daye@uni-graz.at)

The recent years have seen an increasing interest in the role social scientists and social scientific knowledge played in shaping political strategies during the Cold War. Especially in the U.S., but

also in Western Europe and in other countries, social scientists were engaged by decision-makers. This was, at least for some observers, a historically new situation for the social sciences. As C. Wright Mills put it in *The Sociological Imagination*, social scientists have "[f]or the first time in the history of their disciplines ... come into professional relationship with private and public powers well above the level of the welfare agency and the county agent." In Mills' view, this resulted in a profound change in the orientation and the societal position of social sciences: "Their positions change – from the academic to the bureaucratic; their publics change – from movements of reformers to circles of decision-makers; and their problems change – from those of their own choice to those of their clients." However tendentious and at the same time simplifying Mills' perspective upon the history of social sciences is, it opens up several potential potential lines of inquiry for historians of sociology. Papers in this session can, in what format ever, explore the relation between the social sciences and the Cold War; investigate the latter's influence on the character of contemporary social science; deal with the supposed consequences of social scientific theories or empirical findings for the conflict policy of the involved actors; or point in any other way to the change brought about to the intellectual trajectory of social sciences by the new situation alluded to by Mills in the decades of the Cold War. Publication of selected papers is intended.

10. Transatlantic voyages (Cherry Schrecker)
11. Catholic and other religious sociologies (Jennifer Platt)
12. History of specific sociologies (Jennifer Platt)
13. The role of journals, publishing houses, translation practices (E. Stina Lyon)
14. The centennial of Durkheim's *The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life* (1912) (Marcel Fournier)
15. Dialogues between Asian and Western sociologies (Kiyomitsu Yui)
16. History of empirical social research and statistics (Irmela Gorges)
17. History of conflict sociology (Suzie Guth)
18. National trajectories in the history of sociology (Hedvig Ekerwald)
19. Sociology and its public relations (Albert Tzeng)
20. History of sociological journals and their actual behavior (Christian Fleck)
21. Conceptualizations of time and temporality in the history of sociology (Anne Collinot)



Other upcoming events

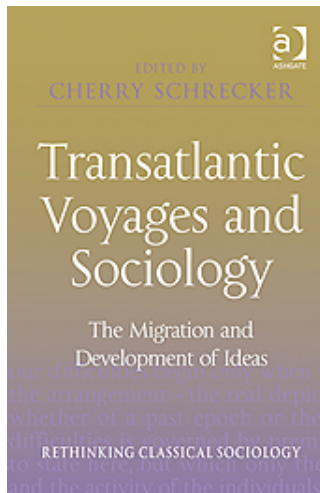
"60 Years of Sociology", BSA Annual Conference, 6-8 April 2011, London School of Economics. The British Sociological Association celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2011 and this is reflected in the theme of the annual conference: 60 Years of Sociology. The conference will explore the past, consider the present and assess the challenges of the future for sociological research in an ever-changing social landscape. The conference will take place at the London School of Economics, 6–8 April 2011.

"Saul Alinsky: a rebel or an organizer?" International Conference, Strasbourg, France, September 9-10, 2011. The aim of this Congress is to bring sociologist Saul Alinsky into the limelight. The conference will concentrate on different aspects of his life and work. Proposals should be submitted in the form of a summary of 10 lines. Deadline: March 20, 2011. Contact: Suzie Guth, Strasbourg University, 22 rue René Descartes, 67084 Strasbourg Cedex, France; phone: 33 3 88 64 29 26; rets.guth@wanadoo.fr.

"Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology", XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology, Yokohama, Japan, 13-19 July 2014. For more information, see the official website: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/>. More info will come in the forthcoming issues of this Newsletter.

Recent publications

Below is a list of some recent publications by RCHS members. If you have a new publication out, please let us know! Just send a note to the secretary! New members are especially encouraged to submit titles of fairly recent publications. Publications in any of the official ISA languages will be included as well as in other languages (but with the titles translated, preferably, in English).



Cherry Schrecker, ed., *Transatlantic Voyages and Sociology: The Migration and Development of Ideas* (Ashgate, 2010).

Short description from the publisher:

"Transatlantic Voyages and Sociology explores the transatlantic journeys which have inspired American and European sociologists and contributed to the development of sociology in Europe and in North America. Furthering our understanding of the very complex processes which affect the diffusion of ideas, it sheds light on the diverse influences which come into play, be they on an individual, institutional or political level. With an international team of experts investigating the reciprocal influence of sociological thought on either side of the Atlantic, this volume will appeal to any scholar interested in the history of sociology, the mutual influence of systems of thought, and the migration of ideas."

Contributions:

Cherry Schrecker, "Introduction – setting the scene: some preliminary remarks on migration and transfer"

Ute Gerhardt, "The transatlantic origin of the modern reception of Max Weber's work in the 1960s"

Victor Lidz, "Talcott Parsons and the transatlantic voyages of Weberian and Durkheimian theories"

Jennifer Platt, "Transatlantic voyages and national sociologies"

Patricia Vannier, "Research trips to the United States in the 1950s: from their beginnings to the redefinition of French sociology"

Jean-Marc Leveratto, "The Techniques of the Body by Marcel Mauss: American culture, everyday life and French theory"

Cherry Schrecker, "The origins of medical sociology, Catherine Déchamp-Le Roux; Community and community studies: a return journey"

David Chalcraft, "Herbert Spencer' dangerous pilgrimage: in America, 1882"

James J. Chriss, "Lester F. Ward and world sociology"

Stephen P. Turner, "Ellwood's Europe"

Elzbieta Halas, "From the methodological note to the method of sociology: Florian Znaniecki's role in the methodological debate in interwar American sociology"

E. Stina Lyon, "Social research for social decency: Gunnar and Alva Myrdal and the Chicago school of sociology"

Christian Fleck, "A collective biography (prosopography) of German-speaking sociologists"

George Psathas, "Alfred Schutz's influence on American sociology during his lifetime"

Fiewel Kupferberg, "Hidden impacts of a cultural migration: traces of Lewis Coser's transatlantic experiences in his sociological work"

Suzie Guth, "Everett C. Hughes' journey in occupied Germany (1948): black market, bastard institutions and dirty work"

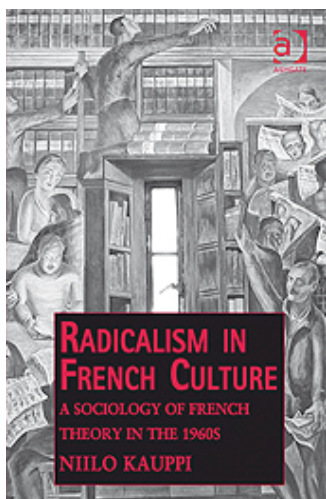
Alexia Arnold, "Nels Anderson in Germany: from interim assignment to long-term involvement"



Sven Eliaeson & Nadezhda Georgieva, eds., *New Europe: Growth to Limits?* (Bardwell Press, 2010).

Short description from the publisher:

”Europe is defined by its borders. But which ones? Since 1989, this question has taken on a new meaning for hundreds of millions of people, within and beyond the EU. This book contains 24 essays contributed by leading European intellectuals to a symposium at the Polish Academy of Science. As Professor Christopher Bryant writes in his foreword, “The new Europe is complex. What and where it is and what it could become are contested intellectually and politically. Contributors to the symposium draw lessons from Kant and Marx onwards.... How far can the European Union be extended geographically? How far, too, can the four freedoms and the single market be developed? What, beyond liberal democracy and a market economy, does the union stand for? On these and other questions the essays in this book offer readers rich food for thought.”



Niilo Kauppi, *Radicalism in French Culture: A Sociology of French Theory in the 1960s* (Ashgate, 2010).

This is the first book in the new Ashgate series on ”Public Intellectuals and the Sociology of Knowledge”, edited by Andreas Hess and Neil McLaughlin.

Short description from the publisher:

”This ground-breaking book furthers the internal sociological analysis of ideas and styles of thought by showing that the defining but largely neglected feature of what has become ‘French theory’ is a collective mind and style, with an explosive but fragile mixture of scientific and political radicalism. This will be a key text for social theorists and those interested in popular media culture within France.”



Jennifer Platt, ”ISA Presidents and their presidential addresses”, an online source available on the official ISA website: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/about/presidents/>.

Description from the introduction:

”The ISA was founded in 1949, and its presidents have served three- or four-year terms from one World Congress to the next. Below, some systematic material is provided on each president and presidential address separately. This introduction explains the wider setting, and looks at some features of the group as a whole. (For the general history of the ISA up to 1997, see Platt 1998). The addresses are given in a formal and highly structured context, so they cannot be regarded simply as individual performances, although they are that too. Some relevant features of World Congresses and their organisation, which have changed over time, are described; how presidents have been elected, and some characteristics of the successful candidates, are sketched. It is shown how the form of the presidential address has emerged from this combination of factors.”

Connell, Raewyn, "Periphery and Metropole in the History of Sociology", *Sociologisk Forskning*, vol. 47, no. 1 (2010), pp. 72-86 – keynote lecture from the 2008 ISA RCHS Interim Conference in Umeå.

Fleck, Christian (2010), "Die Entwicklung der Soziologie in Österreich", in: Peter Biegelbauer, Hg., *Steuerung von Wissenschaft? Die Governance des österreichischen Innovationsystems*, Innsbruck: Studienverlag, 259-296.

Fleck, Christian (2010), "Austrian Academic Publishing in Sociology: A Critical Review", in: *International Sociology Review of Books* 25(5): 625-638.

Fleck, Christian (2010), "60 Jahre Empirische Sozialforschung in vergleichender Perspektive", in: Frank Faulbaum & Christof Wolf, Hrsg. *Gesellschaftliche Entwicklungen im Spiegel der Empirischen Sozialforschung: Deutschland*, Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften, 173-197.

Fleck, Christian (2010), "Diversity or Fragmentation in Europe's Sociology: Lessons to be Learned?", in: Michael Burawoy, Mau-kuei Chang & Michelle Fei-yu Hsieh, eds., *Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for a Global Sociology*, Taipei: Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, vol. 3., 3-22

Heilbron, Johan, Nicolas Guilhot & Laurent Jeanpierre, "Toward a transnational history of the social sciences", *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, vol. 44 (2008), pp. 146-160 – keynote lecture from the 2008 ISA RCHS Interim Conference in Umeå.

Helmes-Hayes, Rick & Neil McLaughlin, "Public Sociology in Canada: Debates, Research, and Historical Context," (with Rick Helmes-Hayes as first author) *Canadian Journal of Sociology* 2009:34(3): 573-600. Introduction to a special issue of CJS on public sociology in Canada.

Kowalchuk, Lisa & Neil McLaughlin "Mapping the Social Space of Opinion: Public Sociology

and the Op-Ed in Canada," *Canadian Journal of Sociology* 34(3) 2009: 697-728.

McLaughlin, Neil, "Comprehending the World; Edward Said and the Autonomous Global Public Intellectual," in *Cultural Autonomy: Frictions and Connections*, Petra Rethmann, Imre Szeman and William D. Coleman, editors. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2010.

McLaughlin, Neil, "Totalitarianism, Social Science, and the Margins", review essay of Peter Baehr, *Hannah Arendt, Totalitarianism and the Social Sciences* (Stanford UP, 2010), *Canadian Journal of Sociology* 35(3) 2010, pp. 463-9 – first presented at "author meets critics"-session the ISA World Congress of Sociology in Gothenburg, Sweden.

McLaughlin, Neil, "Moral Vision, Empirical Rigour: A review of *Measuring the Mosaic: An Intellectual Biography of John Porter*, by Rick Helmes-Hayes", *The Literary Review of Canada*, Vol. 18, No. 1, Jan/Feb 2010, pp. 26-27.

Mochnacki, Alex, Aaron Segart & Neil McLaughlin, "Public Sociology in Print: A Comparative Analysis of Book Publishing in Three Social Science Disciplines," *Canadian Journal of Sociology* 2009:34(3):729-760.

Platt, Jennifer, 'Sociology', pp. 102-135 in ed. Roger E. Backhouse and Philippe Fontaine, *The History of the Social Sciences since 1945*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 2010.

Turner, Stephen, *Explaining the Normative* (Polity, 2010).

Wisselgren, Per, ed., "Thematic Issue: History of the Social Sciences", *Ideas in History*, vol. 4, issue 1 (2009).

Wisselgren, Per (2011), "Expedition Robinson, Reality TV, and the History of the Social Experiment", in *History of Participatory Media: Politics and Publics, 1750-2000*, ed. A. Ekström, S. Jülich, F. Lundgren & P. Wisselgren (New York: Routledge, 2011), pp. 142-157.



Biographies of Sociologists: Towards a shared reference base

by Charles Crothers

One of the major tools and research outcomes of historians of sociology are biographies of sociologists. To some degree there is a tension here since sociologists are more prone to use documents pertinent to collectivities rather than such personal material, and certainly historians of sociology need to be careful with deploying 'great men of history' models. However, assembling biographical material is not always easy, especially with biographies surfacing in a variety of forms – and the genre seems not cleanly understood by library book cataloguers. And the well-known bias towards English language sources is endemic. To this end I'm proposing that the RCHS put some effort into building up resources which can be shared by its members, in a form which they can add their own resources. A listing in an excel file of available book-length biographies of sociologists I have been able to identify is available. This includes several extra codings, including an attempt to classify each work into a typology. Based on that listing and codings I am developing an analysis of some of the characteristics of the literature identified and a commentary on the implications. What follows is a listing of those published over the last 3 years. For those interested in taking part of the full list – with 500 entries – please contact:

Charles Crothers
 Dept. of Social Sciences
 AUT University
 Auckland, New Zealand
charles.crothers@aut.ac.nz

type	Author	Year	title	Publisher
Collection	Aldridge, D. P., Ed.	2008	Imagine a World: Pioneering Black Women Sociologists	University Press of America
Dictionaries	Arya, Suman	2009	Encyclopaedia of world great sociologists	New Delhi: Alfa Publ
Intellectual Bio	Barber, W. J.	2008	Gunnar Myrdal: An Intellectual Biography (Great Thinkers in Economics)	MacMillan.
Conversations	Bardhan, P. K. and I. Ray, Eds.	2008	The contested commons: conversations between economists and anthropologists	Blackwell
AutoBio	Berger, Peter	2011	Accident Sociologist how to discover the world without becoming a bore	Prometheus Books
AutoBio	Bourdieu, P.	2008	Sketch for a Self-Analysis	Uni Chicago P
Bio	Bronstein Jamie L	2009	John Francis Bray : Transatlantic radical	Pontypool, Wales : Merlin Press
Bio	Chinmoy Banerjee	2009	Celebrating life in struggle : a tribute to Hari Sharma	Delhi : Daanish Books, 2009
Heritage	Clark, Janowitz	2010	Gabriel Tarde on Communication and Social Influence: Selected Papers (Heritage of Sociology series)	Uni Chicago P
Socially infected history	Collins, R. a. M. M.	2010	The Discovery of Society	8th ed. New York:McGraw-Hill.
Bio	David D. Kim, E.	2009	Georg Simmel in Translation: Interdisciplinary Border Crossings in Culture and Modernity	Cambridge Scholars Publishing: 2nd rev. ed.
Bio	Davis, M. and Z. Bauman	2008	Freedom and consumerism: a critique of Zygmunt Bauman's sociology	Aldershot, England: Burlington, VT, Ashgate Pub
Bio	Erickson, M. a. T., Charles, Ed.	2010	The sociology of Wilhelm Baldamus: paradox and inference	Farnham, Ashgate Pub
Letters	Ferguson, A. b. d. and P. Electronic Enlightenment	2008	Correspondence Adam Ferguson correspondence	Oxford, Electronic Enlightenment Project

AutoBio	Fox, R.	2010	In the Field: A Sociologist's Journey	Transaction Publishers
Bio	Geary, D.	2009	Radical Ambition: C Wright Mills, The Left, And American Social Thought	
Bio	Germani, A. A.	2008	English Antifascism and sociology: Gino Germani: 1911-1979	
Intellectual Bio	Hall, John	2010	Ernest Gellner: An Intellectual Biography	Verso
Socially inflected history	Haney, D. P.	2008	The Americanization of social science: intellectuals and public responsibility in the postwar United States	Philadelphia, Temple University Press
Bio	Harmer, H. J. P.	2008	Rosa Luxemburg	London :Haus
Intellectual Bio	Helmes-Hayes, R.	2010	Measuring the Mosaic: An Intellectual Biography of John Porter	University of Toronto Press
Socially inflected history	Isfahani-Hammond, A.	2008	White negritude: race, writing, and Brazilian cultural identity	New York, Palgrave Macmillan
Bio	Jacobsen, M. H. e., Ed.	2009	The contemporary Goffman	Routledge
Bio	Kerr, K.	2009	Postmodern cowboy: C. Wright Mills and a new 21st century sociology.	Paradigm Publishers.
Bio	Lawrence A. Scaff	2011	Max Weber in America	Princeton Uni. Press
Bio	League, Kathleen	2010	Adorno, Radical Negativity, and Cultural Critique: Utopia in the Map of the World [Hardcover]	Lexington
Bio	Lemieux, E.	2009	Edgar Morin, l'indiscipline?	Paris: Seuil
Bio	McGonigal, Kathryn, 1970-	2009	Mabel Agnes Elliott : pioneering feminist, pacifist sociologist	Lanham, MD : Lexington Books
Intellectual Bio	Mikics, D., 1961-	2009	Who was Jacques Derrida? : an intellectual biography New Haven:Yale University Press	New Haven:Yale University Press
Heritage	Miller, Dale E.	2010	John Stuart Mill (Key Contemporary Thinkers	Polity Press
Heritage	Mohamed Cherkaoui and Peter Hamilton	2009	Raymond Boudon: A Life in Sociology	Oxford: the Bardwell Press
Bio	Nouvel, M.	2009	Frederic Le Play: une reforme sociale sous le Second Empire	Paris: Economica
Heritage	Outhwaite, William	2009	Habermas: A Critical Introduction, 2nd edition (Key Contemporary Thinkers	Polity Press
Bio	Patterson, T. C.	2009	Karl Marx, anthropologist	Oxford :New York :Berg
Collective Bio	Platt, J.	2010	ISA Presidents and their presidential addresses: the data on individual presidents http://www	isa-sociology
Bio	Rabaka, R.	2010	Against epistemic apartheid: W.E.B. Du Bois and the disciplinary decadence of sociology.	Lanham, Md., Lexington
Bio	Radkau, J.	2009	Max Weber: a biography	Polity
Socially inflected history	Riley, Alexander Tristan	2010	Godless Intellectuals?: The Intellectual Pursuit of the Sacred Reinvented	Berghahn Books
Collective Bio	Saint-Arnaud, P.	2009	African American Pioneers of Sociology: A Critical History	University of Toronto Press
Collective Bio	Schrecker, C., Ed.	2010	Transatlantic voyages and sociology: the migration and development of ideas: Rethinking classical sociology	Farnham, Surrey, England: Burlington,
Bio	Shuxue, L.	2009	Lewis Mumford: critic of culture and civilization	Oxford ::Peter Lang
Socially inflected history	Simonson, P.	2010	Refiguring Mass Communication: A History	Urbana & Chicago: University of Illinois P
AutoBio	Spencer, H.	2010	An Autobiography	Nabu Press
Bio	Stewart, W.	2008	Biographical Dictionary of Sociologists	McFarland
Collective Bio	Stones, R., Ed.	2008	Key sociological thinkers	Palgrave Macmillan
Dictionaries	Tarifa Fatos	2009	Who's who in sociology : a to Z	The Hague : Smiet
AutoBio	Venkatesh, S.	2008	Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Streets	Penguin
Political Bio	Wheatland, T.	2009	The Frankfurt school in exile	Univ. of Minnesota P
Assessments	White, D. F.	2008	Bookchin: a critical appraisal	London: Pluto Press
AutoBio	Worsley, P.	2008	An academic skating on thin ice	NY, Berghahn Books



How to become a member of the RCHS: New RCHS bank account

Membership in the RCHS is open to anyone interested in the field. You become a member as soon as your application has been accepted and dues have been received by the Secretary. Membership dues are payable either through the ISA website (<https://secured.com/~f3641/formisa.htm>) or to the local RCHS bank account (details below).

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RCHS is a Research Committee of the ISA, so RCHS members are expected to be ISA members. The ISA membership registration form is available on <https://secured.com/~f3641/formisa.htm>. There is also now a new facility for paying directly with credit card to the central ISA; further details are available from the ISA website.

If you are not an ISA member you should pay your membership fees directly into the new RCHS bank account and by additionally notifying the secretary via e-mail: per.wisselgren@soc.umu.se or via post: Per Wisselgren, Department of Sociology, Umeå University, SE-901 87 Umeå, SWEDEN. Please do NOT send cheques since extra charges apply.

The RCHS bank account is now – since October 2010 – located in Sweden. Banking details:

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Swedbank

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(For payments within Sweden: Clearing number: 8420-4; Bank account number: 923 265 192-8)

If there are any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary Per Wisselgren: per.wisselgren@soc.umu.se



RCHS Newsletter

RCHS Newsletter is produced two times a year, usually in November and May. In addition to conference reports and information about upcoming events and meetings it also includes lists of members and their addresses, details of new members and their special interests, information about new publications by members, news and notes about such matters as archives, conferences of other bodies, book recommendations, members' work in progress, members' moves and promotions, and obituaries. The purpose is to encourage wider communication and develop the international contacts among scholars engaged in the history of sociology.

Next issue of the Newsletter is scheduled for May 2011.

Deadline for submissions: 30 April 2012.