

RC19 Newsletter

LETTER FROM RC19 PRESIDENT JOAKIM PALME

A year has passed. We can look back at the 2012 events and I think we can do that with some satisfaction.

During the first days of August, the second ISA Forum took place in Buenos Aires. For RC19, the event turned out to be very successful and, being the first time we participated in the Forum, it was a milestone for the Committee. Several factors contributed to the success. Most important was the joint work of Camila Arza and Daniel Béland, which resulted in a very dense program covering a broad range of issues in the Latin American context. I am especially happy with the fact that they attracted so many Latin American scholars. And Evelyn Huber contributed with a very sharp keynote. Moreover, the joint sessions with RC15 really deserve to be highlighted: Claus Wendt had together with Ellen Kuhlmann put together a series of interesting sessions that motivated us to get up early in the morning. We should try to build on these kinds of joint sessions in the future, not only in connection to future Forums but also at the World Congresses.

The main event of RC19 was the annual meeting in Oslo. The actual meeting was preceded by the final conference of a Nordic Network of Excellence, RECOWE, which attracted a number of interesting papers and presentations that provided a good starting point for the early arrivers. The Annual Meeting was, of course, well organized and featured not only plenary and parallel sessions with a lot of interesting papers but also very stimulating keynotes by Shireen Hassim and Fiona Williams. Bjørn Hvinden, together with Mi-Ah Schøyen did a fantastic job in putting the whole event together and we are grateful to them and for the support of NOVA, financial and otherwise.

Next annual meeting will be held in Budapest, organized by a very competent team from the Central European University (CEU): Viola Zentai, Julia Szalai, Viktoria Koszegi and Lilla Jakobs. The call for papers is out and also appears in this Newsletter. The CEU team has put together a very thought-provoking theme for the conference and I hope it will encourage you to develop equally interesting paper proposals! Looking forward to seeing you there!

The next World Congress will be held in Yokohama in 2014, and there will soon be more information available about that event soon. The Board is also in the process of preparing for upcoming Annual meetings and there are very promising options developing and we will also return to you with more information soon.

We can look forward to a very interesting 2013 year for RC19 and its members!

Joakim Palme, President of RC19 (ISA)

CALL FOR PAPERS

RC19: Research Committee on Poverty, Social Welfare and Social Policy

SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND THE CHALLENGES OF INCLUSION: SOCIAL POLICIES ADDRESSING INTERSECTING INEQUALITIES

Central European University, Budapest (Hungary), August 22-24, 2013

The RC19 annual conference brings together international scholars in the field of comparative welfare state and social policy studies, and encompasses a range of disciplines, including sociology, social policy, political science, and policy studies. RC19 conference sessions are organized to reflect on the specific conference theme and also to discuss the ongoing research projects of RC19 members.

The Conference Theme

There is growing academic attention and policy interest dedicated to the twin notions of social exclusion and inclusion and the place of these concepts in broader social policy thinking. The debates around these terms reach out and connect two distinctive academic circles: one that organizes itself around issues of welfare and social policy, and the other which centers on anti-discrimination and human rights agendas. The two communities are connected by a number of intellectual channels and actions in academic and policy thinking. One of the most inspiring of these intersecting grounds of thinking is promoted by the concept of recognition and redistribution struggles. Another distinctive bridging avenue is paved by theories of intersecting inequalities (most often understood by class, gender, and race/ethnicity but not exclusively) claiming voice in very different disciplines. The conference encourages papers which investigate the main social categories/mechanisms by which inequalities are constituted, legitimized, questioned, and tackled in diverse societies.

Comparative inquiries are invited to cast critical attention to the ways in which social debates and policies name social groups/grounds as the most significant subjects or forces of exclusion by explaining hierarchies, sequences, or webs of these forces. It is also encouraged to examine how these debates are embedded in different models of capitalism, state and citizenship regimes, and civil society or political cultures. Inquiries are also solicited that examine the potentials and risks of social policy frames and mechanisms that address the multiple and/or intersecting inequalities and powerlessness. Organizers welcome papers that draw attention to the differences and commonalities of post-cold-war social policy models across continents and polities, with diverging inclinations to embrace critical thinking on multiple and intersecting inequalities, powerlessness, and discrimination.

Beyond this general theme, as in previous RC19 annual conferences, RC19 members are also encouraged to submit paper proposals presenting their ongoing social policy research.

Abstract submission

Scholars are invited to submit the abstract of an unpublished paper indicating the leading research question, theoretical approach, research methods, data sources, and analytical significance. Abstracts should be of maximum 500 words. The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2013. Preference will be given to paper proposals which make a strong comparative and/or theoretical contribution to the field. The conference format (see below) allows for in-depth discussion of a limited number of papers (45-50 altogether). Authors of accepted papers may be asked to act as discussants. Conference registration and attendance is open to members of RC19.

Membership in RC19 is open to social scientists from all disciplines upon payment of a modest membership fee. If you are not already a member, please contact the RC19 Secretary, Daniel Beland (daniel.beland@usask.ca; www.danielbeland.org).

Advanced doctoral students and junior researchers are also encouraged to attend the conference and may choose to submit their abstract to either mentoring sessions (see below under *Conference format*) or regular sessions. At the time of abstract submission, it should be clearly marked whether the material is being submitted to the regular or the mentoring sessions.

Please submit your abstract through the online abstract submission system accessible through the conference website: www.rc19budapest2013.com. You will automatically receive confirmation of your submission and a generated PDF document of what you submitted. If you do not receive such a confirmation please contact rc19_budapest_2013@ceu.hu.

Abstracts are evaluated by the Program Committee, and notification of acceptance or rejection will be sent to the authors by March 15, 2013. Completed papers must be submitted by July 15, 2013 to be included in the final conference program.

A small number for travel grants are available to post-graduate students and scholars living in developing countries. Applications for travel grants should be submitted at the same time as paper abstracts, in a separate email to rc19_budapest_2013@ceu.hu by January 31, 2013. Applicants with accepted abstracts will be notified on the availability of travel subsidies by March 15, 2013.

Key Dates

Submission of abstracts: January 31, 2013

Acceptance of abstracts: March 15, 2013

Submission of full papers: July 15, 2013

Conference format

The conference will be organized according to Korpi's rules to foster lively discussions and scholarly exchanges. The rules are named for Walter Korpi, past president of RC19, who instituted a workshop-style meeting format that the membership has found very congenial over the years: a) papers are circulated (and read) in advance; b) at the conference they are introduced by a discussant (rather than the author); c) the author is only given limited time to react to the discussant's presentation so as to leave more room for a general discussion. Thus, accepting a place on the program entails a commitment to complete the paper in time for others to read it and to come prepared to discuss papers. Equally, participants may expect to serve as discussant for another paper, and to open the floor with an incisive and fair assessment of its strengths and weaknesses.

Special mentoring sessions will also be organized to match advanced doctoral and junior researchers with senior scholars working in related areas. Interests in taking part in these sessions should be indicated together with the submitted paper abstract.

More information: www.rc19budapest2013.com; Contact: rc19_budapest_2013@ceu.hu

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

“THE FUTURE OF WELFARE STATE STUDIES” POSTDOCTORAL CONFERENCE, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, UMEÅ UNIVERSITY, UMEÅ, SWEDEN, MAY 15-17, 2013

The future of the welfare state remains an important research question—especially given the economic crises facing European and North American institutions as well as the emerging welfare states of Asia and Latin America. This conference will bring together those who represent the future of the field and support young scholars who will likely set the research agenda for years to come. This conference is limited to *current* postdoctoral researchers. We encourage participation from junior scholars located in any of the social, economic, historical, anthropological, political, or behavioral sciences at colleges, universities, or research institutes worldwide. We aim to include the most novel and potentially groundbreaking scholarship that goes beyond what we already know about welfare states. The conference will include a number of concurrent sessions that focus on the most important questions in the field. Postdocs will have the opportunity to share their ideas and research within a community of peers. The evening program, which features a reception and conference dinner, will also provide opportunities for postdocs to socialize and enjoy Umeå. This format and schedule will allow for extensive networking, exchange of practical information and ideas, and the formation of new collaborative partnerships that have the potential to last the duration of one's career.

The conference will also offer keynote speeches by internationally renowned welfare state researchers who have been innovative in terms of their research questions and strategies. Confirmed speakers are: Jason Beckfield (Harvard University, USA), Daniel Béland (University of Saskatchewan, Canada), Traute Meyer (University of Southampton, UK), and Stefan Svallfors (Stockholm University & Umeå University, Sweden). By reflecting on and sharing their experiences, it is our hope that keynote speakers will inspire postdocs to ‘think outside the box’ and adopt creative approaches to their own research agendas, thereby stimulating the growth of new perspectives and approaches in the field.

We will consider research that addresses any and/or combinations of the following themes: Aging; Collective Action; Culture; Family; Gender; Immigration and Migration; Institutional Stability and Change; Labor Markets; Immigration and Migration; Politics; Poverty and Inequality; Race and Ethnicity; Public Policy; Religion; Research Methods; Taxes and Social Expenditure; Values, Traits, Attitudes, and Norms; Welfare; and Well-being.

Please email your abstract (max 500 words) and contact information by February 1, 2013 to maureen.eger@soc.umu.se.

Decisions will be made and participants contacted by February 15, 2013. Information about subsidized hotel accommodation and other details will be announced then. There will be a conference fee of 550 SEK (approximately 65 EUR/83 CAD/52 GBP/83 USD).

The following airlines service Umeå Airport: *SAS Scandinavian Airlines, Air Baltic, Malmö Aviation, Norwegian, and Flybe*. Beginning February 2013, *Air Sweden* will offer direct flights from London, Frankfurt, and Paris.

CALL FOR PAPERS

JOINT NORDWEL AND REASSESS INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL: STATE, SOCIETY & CITIZEN—CROSS-DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON WELFARE STATE DEVELOPMENT (REYKJAVIK, 15-20 AUGUST 2013).

Welfare states can be studied with a number of theoretical and methodological approaches, from various chronological perspectives and with a focus on Different empirical phenomena. The summer school aims to stimulate discussions across disciplines and foster innovative crossdisciplinary research on the development of welfare states over time. The summer school brings together PhD students and well-established scholars in scientific Exchanges.

Distinguished international scholars representing different disciplines and cross-disciplinary approaches lecture in sessions covering a vast range of themes. The list of senior scholars, who have confirmed their participation, includes Ann Orloff (Northwestern University, USA), Keith Banting (Queens University, Canada), Wim van Oorschot (Leuven University, Belgium), Noel

Whiteside (Warwick University, UK), Ana M. Guillén (Oviedo University, Spain), Patrick Emmenegger (St. Gallen University, Switzerland), Daniel Béland (University of Saskatchewan, Canada), Åsa Lundqvist (Lund University, Sweden), Gunhild Hagestad (NOVA, Norway), Pauli Kettunen (University of Helsinki, Finland), Björn Hvinden (NOVA, Norway), Guðmundur Jonsson (University of Iceland, Iceland), Viggo Nordvik (NOVA, Norway), Klaus Petersen (University of Southern Denmark, Denmark).

We invite PhD students from different disciplinary backgrounds both within and outside the Nordic countries to participate in the discussion on the development of welfare states, their preconditions, present status and how we ought to study them. PhD Students present their papers in parallel sessions and get feedback from senior scholars and junior colleagues. Poster sessions are included.

We welcome paper proposals by PhD students. The approved proposals will be selected on the basis of their quality. Papers can be written from a broad historical or contemporary perspective and come from different disciplines such as history, social policy, sociology, political science, and political philosophy. Guidelines for papers and posters will be sent in connection with the letters of approval. Participants who complete the summer school successfully are credited with 6 ECTS credits.

COURSE FEE

The course fee is 150 euros. Accommodation is financed by the organizing centres. A limited number of travel grants will be available.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are asked to submit an abstract (max 400 words) for a paper and a short biography (including a list of publications) by e-mail no later than 10 March 2013 to our coordinator Heidi Haggrén, heidi.haggren@helsinki.fi.

For updates, please check <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/nord-wel/>.

For inquiries, contact coordinator Heidi Haggrén (heidi.haggren@helsinki.fi, +358-9-19124958).

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Pauli Kettunen (University of Helsinki, Finland)
Klaus Petersen (University of Southern Denmark, Denmark)
Björn Hvinden (NOVA, Norwegian Social Research, Norway)
Viggo Nordvik (NOVA, Norwegian Social Research, Norway)
Guðmundur Jónsson (University of Iceland, Iceland)
Guðbjörg Linda Rafnsdóttir (University of Iceland, Iceland)
Ingibjörg Lilja Ómarsdóttir (University of Iceland; Iceland)

THREE YEAR PHD STUDENTSHIP

“Equality at the Intersection of Markets and Demography”

http://www.bath.ac.uk/sps/news/news_0053.html

We invite applications for a fully funded doctoral studentship in the Department of Social & Policy Sciences.

About the studentship

The studentship is associated with Professor Lynn Prince Cooke’s research programme on “Equality at the Intersection of Markets and Demography.” Professor Cooke conducts comparative research on the impact of policy on gendered divisions of paid and unpaid work, and how these affect subsequent life course outcomes such as divorce or children’s life chance.

Department of Social & Policy Sciences

If successful, you will be fully engaged in the Department of Social & Policy Sciences; one of the leading centres for social sciences in the UK. Our Department was ranked second in the Social Policy and Social Work unit of assessment in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), and we were awarded the prestigious Queen’s Anniversary Prize in 2011 for our innovative research on child poverty around the globe.

We have a vibrant, supportive and successful community of over 70 research students from a range of disciplines. We also host a well-attended weekly postgraduate seminar series, and our students organise an interdisciplinary annual conference. Our students also play significant roles in Departmental and Faculty research centre activities.

Combined with our community feel, Social & Policy Sciences in Bath is an intellectually challenging and socially supportive place to pursue your PhD.

Funding criteria

You should fulfil the entrance requirements for a Department of Social & Policy Sciences PhD and meet the required Terms & Conditions.

If successful, you will be expected to contribute 85 hours per-year to the Department, through a combination of teaching and research assistance.

The award

The studentship is fully funded at home/EU fees level (overseas candidates will need supplementary funding) for three years and is available for an October 2013 start.

The studentship includes:

- a stipend of at least £13,590 per-year
- £1,000 training fee per-year (for each of the three years)

The University is a member, along with the universities of Bristol and Exeter, of the ESRC-funded South West Doctoral Training Centre, which provides further doctoral training opportunities.

Details of other funding awards can be found on the Graduate School website.

How to apply

1. You should apply online to study for the PhD.
2. You must also provide an original, theoretically-driven 3,000 word proposal related to the broad themes (detailed above) (this should be comparative and employ quantitative methods applied to large-scale data).
3. You must also apply specifically for this funding, including the need to complete the Funding Request Form in which you must outline your motivation for wanting to undertake research and a brief outline of your initial thoughts on the area of research (maximum 500 words).

The closing date for applications is *14 February 2013 at 12:00 noon (GMT)*.

Contact

If you have any questions about the studentship or application process please contact Professor Cooke email: l.p.cooke@bath.ac.uk

BOOKS

Ive Marx and Kenneth Nelson (eds). 2012. *Minimum Income Protection in Flux*. Palgrave Macmillan.

The current economic crisis has presented itself as a formidable challenge to the welfare states of Europe. It is more relevant than ever to ask: do existing minimum income protection schemes succeed in adequately protecting citizens, be it whether they are excluded from work, working, retired, or having children? Drawing on in-depth and up-to-date institutional data from across Europe and the US, this volume details the reality of minimum income protection policies over time. Including contributions from leading scholars in the field, each chapter provides a systematic cross-national analysis of minimum income protection policies, developing concrete policy guidance on an issue at the heart of the European debate.

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Frank Vandembroucke, Bea Cantillon, Natascha Van Mechelen, Tim Goedemé and Anne Van Lancker

Peter Saunders. 2012. *Down and Out: Poverty and Exclusion in Australia*. Bristol: Policy Press.

This landmark study provides the first comprehensive assessment of the nature and associations between the three main forms of social disadvantage in Australia: poverty, deprivation and social exclusion. Drawing on the author's extensive research expertise and his links with welfare practitioners, it explains the limitations of existing approaches and presents new findings that build on the insights of disadvantaged Australians and views about the essentials of life, providing the basis for a new deprivation-based poverty measure.

This title can be ordered from The Policy Press website at a 20% discount:

www.policypress.co.uk

The Commonwealth Secretariat and the UN present the “Social Policies in Small States Series.” These short books are available online:

<https://publications.thecommonwealth.org/social-policies-in-small-states-series-163-c.aspx>

Toivonen, Tuukka. 2013. *Japan’s Emerging Youth Policy: Getting Young Adults Back to Work*. Abingdon: Routledge.

This monograph examines how key institutions and actors in Japan have responded to the rise of youth unemployment after several decades of extremely good employment performance. It provides the first account of how Western ideas of 'social inclusion' and 'activation' have been adapted to use in the post-industrial Japanese context. The analysis reveals that while something best described as 'symbolic activation' has been a salient element at the macro-level, far more innovative and humane responses to youth exclusion (including the issue of so-called 'NEETs') have been developed by enterprising youth supporters who carefully mediate between a conservative state, a scandal-hungry media, worried parents, deregulated labour markets and young adults with complex disadvantages.

RECENT ARTICLE

Seeleib-Kaiser, Martin & Toivonen, Tuukka. 2011. ‘Between reforms and birth rates: Germany, Japan and family policy discourse’, *Social Politics*, 18 (3): 331-360.

This paper compares family policy development in Germany and Japan and finds first of all that there is no direct relationship between low birthrates and family policy change, and secondly that the extent to which employers have bought into the 'work- life balance' discourse best explains the more rapid progress in 'social democratic' family policy reforms in Germany compared to Japan.

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Let RC19 members know about forthcoming conferences, recent publications, and employment opportunities! Send me your submissions and I will include them in the next RC19 Digest: daniel.beland@usask.ca

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