



**RC-32 DECEMBER 2008
NEWSLETTER**

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Please send your news to Bandana Purkayastha (bandanapukyastha@yahoo.com), RC-32 Newsletter Editor, by March 1, for the April 2009 newsletter.

Please send your material as doc and jpg files only. (pdf files can pose significant formatting problem for the doc versions of the newsletter). I will occasionally accept materials in languages other than English provided (a) I can cut, paste and format the text easily, and, (b) you provide an English translation.

Please note that announcements with deadlines should also be announced over the RC-32 list serv.

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

Report by

Margaret Abraham and Esther Ngan-Ling Chow

We have just started the second half of our four-year term and it is already time to start planning for the World Congress to be held in Sweden in 2010! In this newsletter, we would like to take this opportunity to provide a report of the RC 32 activities starting post Durban 2006 and culminating with the ISA First World Forum held in Barcelona in September 2008. We will also briefly touch upon some of the initiatives that RC 32 intends to work on in this second half of the four year term.

Looking Back

RC 32 Activities Report: August 2006-September 2008

1. Creation of RC 32 and the RC 32 Board Listservs

To establish a more efficient mechanism for information dissemination and for all RC 32 members to stay connected globally, we, the co-presidents decided to create a listserv. Margaret Abraham set up an RC 32 Listserv for members ([RC 32@listserv.hofstra.edu](mailto:RC_32@listserv.hofstra.edu)) and for the executive board ([RC 32Board@listserv.hofstra.edu](mailto:RC_32Board@listserv.hofstra.edu)) through Hofstra University. This listserv has been used by to share information in a timely manner and to increase participation in interim activities. The listserv is regularly updated by Cynthia Bogard, RC 32 treasurer, based on membership provided by the ISA.

2. Elections for vacant positions and revised region on the RC 32 Board

At our business meeting in Durban RC 32 we spoke about redefining the regions so as to make the RC 32 board more representative and inclusive. The executive voted in favor of revised regions and change in the numerical representation. The first few months after returning from Durban, RC 32 Co presidents (2006-2010), and Ann Dennis (the lead election committee officer) contacted RC 32 members in Durban who expressed an interest in serving on the board. In addition, we outreached to other regional members to nominate themselves or others for the revised regions and the positions left open from the 2006-2010 elections held prior to Durban. Ann Dennis sent out a call for nominations on the RC 32 listserv which was then followed by successful elections and a full RC 32 Board.

3. RC 32 Newsletter

The newsletter is diligently and successfully put together by the RC 32 Newsletter editor, Bandana Purkayastha. It is published twice a year in English and is sent out electronically on the RC 32 listserv. In addition, the newsletter is sent to the ISA Secretariat, who then posts it on the ISA/RC 32 website. The newsletter includes co-presidents report, RC 32 member announcements of publications and awards; regional perspectives from RC 32 regional board representatives or members, call for conferences etc. The newsletter comes out bi-annually (March 2007, November 2007, March 2008 and November 2008).

4. ISA Grant Application

In March 2007, we successfully applied for an ISA Grant of \$1500.00. This is a one time grant that an RC can apply to support the activities of RC 32 during the four year term. This money was used to support some members who requested funding to participate in the first interim conference in Athens, Greece or at the ISA-World Forum in Barcelona.

5. First RC 32 Interim International Conference with EKKE in Athens, Greece

ISA/Research Committee of Women in Society (RC 32) successfully held its First Interim International Conference (for 2006-2010) in collaboration with the "National Centre for Social Research of Greece", EKKE in Athens on 31 May - 1 June 2007. The two-day conference with its theme of "Women and Citizenship in a Local/Global world" was attended by approximately one hundred and fifty participants. The conference included eight sessions (with parallel sessions) and presentations by fifty authors from five continents in total. It brought together scholars, policy-makers, and activists to inform and engage in dialogue and debate on key issues of women and citizenship. An additional component of this conference was the joint session with the Research Committee 14 on the Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (RC14) on "Media and Socio-Cultural Construction of Citizenship". The key conference organizer was Laura Maratou-Alipranti, Research Director, National Centre for Social Research (EKKE) and ISA / RC 32 Europe Regional Board Member. Evangelia Tastsoglou, Saint Mary's University, Canada, Visiting Professor, National Centre for Social Research Athens (EKKE) and ISA/RC 32 President Elect was the co-coordinator and RC 32 Co-presidents Margaret Abraham, Hofstra University, USA and RC 32 Co-president Esther Ngan-Ling Chow, American University, USA served as co-organizers.

6. ISA RC 32 at American Sociological Association, New York, USA 2007

RC 32 organized a panel on Gender Research: Linking the Global and the Local for Social Change' in collaboration with Sociologists for Women in Society and American Sociological Association (ASA) at the ASA Annual Meeting in New York, on August 13, 2007. The co-organizers of this panel were RC 32 board members Bandana Purkayastha, University of Connecticut and Solange Simoes, University of Eastern Michigan. Tola Olu Pearce, University of Columbia Missouri, spoke on "Past and Ongoing Dilemmas of NGOs Working for Social Change in Africa" and Solange Simões, spoke on "Brazilian Women's Higher Than Men's Associational Life and Political Activism: A New Local or Global Trend?" Bandana served as the moderator.

7. Mundos de Mujeres/Women's Worlds: 10th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, Madrid, Spain 3-9 July 2008.

One of the ways that RC 32 achieves its objectives is by organizing multiple independent and/or joint sessions as a small component of other large sociology/ women's conferences. The MMWW2008 conference provided one such forum. Coordinated by the RC 32 co-presidents, four panels were co-organized by RC 32 board members and four additional panels jointly sponsored / organized by members of Research RC 32 and the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) were accepted for mmww2008. The co-organizers for each of these panels put together a stimulating set of papers. In addition,

individuals who are also members of RC 32 submitted independent papers that were accepted by MMWW2008. While the MMWW2008 conference itself did provide an important venue to address women's issues, it also encountered organizational and representational challenges, particularly in achieving the diversity of voices and perspectives that can enhance the interrogation of theoretical paradigms, discussions of current research, and truly inspire collective action to empower women locally and globally. Full participation by RC 32 panel members was also impeded by funding and visa issues. [NOTE: For more details see, "RC 32 participation at the 10th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, 3-9 July 2008, Madrid, Spain" reported by Cynthia Joseph, RC 32 Regional Representative Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Rim. Also see, piece by Barbara Sutton with introduction by Judith Lorber]

8. American Sociological Association, Boston, USA 2008

RC 32 co-sponsored with the American Sociological Association (ASA) a thematic session, "Gender and Work: Global, Local, and Transnational Perspectives," at the annual ASA meeting of held in Boston (USA), on August 1, 2008. The session was organized by Esther Ngan-ling Chow and Margaret Abraham and presided at the session by the former. [NOTE: For more details see, "Regional Professional Dialogue and Engagement" by Esther Ngan-ling Chow, p.22]

9. First ISA World Forum of Sociology, Barcelona, Spain 5-8, September 2008

In early September 2008, after many months of planning and preparation as discussed in our report in the March 2008 newsletter, RC 32 participated in the ISA First World Forum held in Barcelona, Spain. This major new initiative of the ISA provided an important avenue to bring together many RCs to hold a joint interim conference. The RC 32 conference theme was "Weaving Spheres of Knowledge and Action: Sociological Research and Women in Society." Coordinated by the RC 32 Co-presidents Esther Ngan-Ling Chow and Margaret Abraham, and co-organized with the help of the RC 32 Executive Board and the larger membership, RC 32 organized 11 independent panel sessions and collaborated with other RCs to organize 8 joint sessions. These independent and joint panels addressed a wide range of important issues that led to stimulating dialogue among the attendees. RC 32 especially developed a program that was inclusive of women/gender scholarship worldwide. However, the denial of visas by the Spanish Embassy for scheduled presenters from some countries and the lack of substantive financial support did have an impact on the overall conference, including the RC 32 program. RC 32 also held its business meeting and hosted a well attended reception that was primarily sponsored by a contribution of \$1000 from the "Sociologists for Women in Society" (SWS) in USA. [NOTE: For more details see, "R32 participation at the First ISA World Forum of Sociology, Barcelona, Spain 5-8, Sept. 2008" reported by Margaret Abraham; and "Who Does the Talk? Who Does the Walk?" By Nazanin Shahrokni, International Sociological Association Board, Research Committee-32, Middle East Representative]

Looking Ahead

1. Planning for XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology for 2010 begins now!

The planning for 2010 for the XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology in Gothenburg, Sweden from 11 through 17 July, 2010 has begun! RC 32 conference coordinators, Margaret Abraham and Esther Ngan-ling Chow have received the guidelines for program and have shared this with the executive board. To enhance the quality of our RC 32 program and to increase broader participation early in the program development process, we are soliciting input from the larger RC 32 membership. Your active involvement as an RC 32 member is important to the success of our program. We welcome your ideas and suggestions on possible themes topics and proposal submissions (See details, in this newsletter: PLANNING FOR RC 32 PROGRAM).

2. Recruitment of New Members for RC 32

In 2006, at Durban our membership was approximately 200 members. By October 2008 our membership increased to 253! At the RC 32 business meeting in Durban, we set the ambitious goal of trying to double our membership number by 2010. We believe that this goal is achievable if each current member of RC 32 becomes proactive in recruiting new members. The regional board members will also be playing an important role in increasing membership.

3. Reviewing and Revising the RC 32 By-Laws

All the Research committee have been charged with reviewing and revising their by-laws to ensure that they meet the ISA requirement for RCs. Ann Denis, a long time RC 32 member with a lot of experience and expertise on ISA research committee issues, has kindly agreed to chair the RC 32 committee to undertake this task.

4. RC 32 Board Elections for 2010 - 2014

Next year we will create an election committee that will be responsible for soliciting nominations for positions on the RC 32 Board (2010-2014) and for conducting the RC 32 Board elections.

5. RC 32 Essay competition

Early next year we will be putting out a call for the RC 32 Essay competition. The details for this competition are in formation and an updated call will be posted on the RC 32 website.

6. Visa Issues and Funding for 2010

RC 32 will follow up on the motion passed by the research Council to effectively address the issue of Visa. (See Nazanin Sharokhini's article on p. 13 for more details on this topic). RC 32 also intends to fundraise through the solidarity fund and explore other potential sources of funding to support participation of scheduled presenters in the RC 32 program at the XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology in Gothenburg, Sweden.

Looking back at the last two years, we realize that the RC 32 collective has accomplished a lot since the last World Congress in Durban in 2006. We also realize that much still needs to be done by 2010. Through our individual and collective efforts as RC 32 members, we are confident that we will accomplish what we set out to do and more!

REPORTS AND REFLECTIONS ON PAST CONFERENCES

RC32 participation at the 10th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, 3-9 July 2008, Madrid, Spain

Reported by

Cynthia Joseph

RC32 Regional Representative Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Rim

Women's Worlds congress, an international interdisciplinary congress on women with the focus on gender research and interdisciplinary scholarship is held every three years. The 10th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women with the theme New Frontiers: Challenges and Changes was held in Madrid, Spain from 3-9 July 2008. Previous Congresses have been held in Korea (2005), Uganda (2002), Norway (1999), and Australia (1996) and drew between 2,000 and 3,000 participants. Past Congress themes have included Embracing the Earth: East-West North-South (Korea), Gendered Worlds: Gains and Challenges (Uganda), Generations (Norway) and Think Global, Act Local (Australia). These congresses have been very exciting and energized gatherings of scholars from diverse cultural and geo-political locations. In addition to the diverse array of sessions and plenaries, these congresses have also included cultural events and exhibitions, book fairs, cultural and historical tours, art and film shows. Keynote speakers at this recent congress included Nawal Al-Sadawi, Kimberley Crenshaw, Aida Hurtado, Saskia Sassen, Nayereh Tohidi, Young Mi Cho, Teresa Alvarez and other scholars and activists.

RC32 co-presidents, Margaret Abraham and Esther Ngan-Ling Chow, successfully coordinated the organisation and presentations of 4 RC32 panels and 4 jointly sponsored panels with the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS). The panels are listed below

- From Marginalization to Participation: Gender, Education and Empowerment in the Middle East co-organised by Suaad Zayed Al-Oraimi (UAE), UAE University and Nazanin Shahrokni (Iran), University of Berkeley
- Women and the Environment co-organised by Oluyemi Fayomi (Nigeria), Covenant University and Lotsmart Fonjong (Cameroon), Buea University
- Migrant Women in the Global Economy: Labour, Identities and Diasporas co-organised by Evangelia Tastsoglou (Canada), Saint Mary's University and Cynthia Joseph (Australia), Monash University
- Women's Movement and Gender Mainstreaming in Transitional States Co-organizers: Tan Lin (People's Republic of China), Women's Studies Institute of

China and Cai Yiping (People's Republic of China), Women's Studies Institute of China

The four jointly organized panels by RC32 and SWS were:

- “Dangerous Liaison?: Feminism and Corporate Globalization” organized by Manisha Desai (USA) University of Connecticut
- Gendered Bodies: Exploited Statuses organized by Judith Lorber (USA) Brooklyn College & Graduate School, CUNY
- Gendered Bodies: Exploitation and Resistance organized by Judith Lorber (USA) Brooklyn College & Graduate School, CUNY
- Gendering Bodies Through Sport (semi-plenary) organized by Judith Lorber (USA) Brooklyn College & Graduate School, CUNY

Strong and informative papers were presented at these RC32 conference panels covering a range of intellectually stimulating topics on the ways in which gender and cultural politics are being reconfigured in contemporary globalizing times. The papers presented at these sessions highlighted innovative theoretical and methodological approaches in gender research and social activism. Some of the papers also addressed the challenges women encounter in different contexts and provided important insights on the creative strategies used at the individual, collective, and institutional level for women's empowerment. At the end of each panel RC32 co-president, Margaret Abraham acknowledged and thanked the co-organizers and provided information about RC32 and encouraged attendees to join RC32. The conference also provided a great opportunity for RC32 members to engage and collaborate with other researchers and activists at the international level. RC32 members also presented papers in various other sessions, thereby enhancing the overall RC32 participation at this conference. It was also nice to have the opportunity to meet RC 32 members at an informal lunch set for one of the days during the conference.

Evangelia Tastsoglou and I were pleased to co-organise a session Migrant Women in the Global Economy: Labour, Identities and Diasporas. We had an ‘international’ panel with Heidi Mirza (UK), Monica Gordon (US), Margaret Abraham (US), Evangelia (Canada) and Cynthia (Australia/Malaysia). We had lively presentations and question-and-answer sessions on the different conceptual frameworks adopted in our papers in understanding migrant women in the global economy. The case studies presented were located within Canada, Australia, US, England, India, Malaysia and included cultural groups of Greek, Latina, Caribbean, Indian and Malaysian women in transnational spaces.

Due to visa issues, and despite proactive efforts by Cai Yipping, Tan Lin, Margaret Abraham, Esther Chow, Kristy Kelly and Judith Lorber, the Chinese participants did not receive the formal invitation letter from WW08 organizer, for the purpose of visa application in a timely fashion. They were missed by all who attended this session. However, two of the presenters from the US and South Africa who were also a part of this panel on Women's Movement and Gender Mainstreaming in Transitional States presented strong and informative papers and Margaret served as the chair. Participants from the session on “women and environment” organized by Oluyemi Fayomi and

Lotsmart Fonjong also encountered similar visa and funding issues. This panel was one of the very few that pertained to the environment at this conference and those people who came to hear the panelists were quite disappointed at not having this session. However, RC32 understands that funding for these conferences is a major impediment in getting full participation. Many of the presenters from the global South had problems in attending due to funding and procedural delays in getting visas. RC32 executive board made an official note of these matters to the mmww2008 conference organizers.

Co-presidents Margaret Abraham and Esther Chow, on behalf of the executive board, congratulates and thanks all members and organizers of the sessions for putting together a stimulating set of papers together for each session. Margaret especially notes that the RC 32 sessions were very well attended and the papers presented well received.

RC32 looks forward to your participation at the next Congress. The 11th International Interdisciplinary Congress on “Women’s Worlds” with the theme “Inclusions, Exclusions, and Seclusions: Living in a Globalized World” will be held July 3-7th 2011 in Ottawa-Gatineau, Canada. This congress will be hosted jointly by representatives of Carleton University, the University of Ottawa, the Université du Québec en Outaouais and Saint Paul’s University. An update on the planning for Women’s World 2011 can be accessed on the following links

<http://www.wv-mf2011.ca> and <http://www.wv05.org/wows/looking/iicw2011.htm>

Regional Professional Dialogue and Engagement By Esther Ngan-ling Chow

RC-32 co-sponsored a thematic session, “Gender and Work: Global, Local, and Transnational Perspectives,” with the American Sociological Association, at its’ annual meeting in Boston (USA), on August 1, 2008. The session was organized by Esther Ngan-ling Chow and Margaret Abraham and presided by the former at the meeting. The participants interrogated how macro forces have impacted on women’s and men’s world through the ways that work is organized, experienced, and transformed, and how the results, in turn, shape and even change identity, ideology, gender relations and social institutions at the global, transnational and local levels. We also examined how gendered work is bound up with class, race/ethnicity, and nationality in influencing the nature of various types of women’s work (paid or unpaid; formal or informal) and how social organizations, labor processes, and job consequences inevitably intersect with these macro-micro linkages. Papers represented a variety of global issues concerning gendered work, inequality and social injustice from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America.

The four papers presented were:

The Gender Ideological Clash of Globalization: Women and Work in the Case of the Philippines

Rhacel Parrenas, University of California, Davis

Organizing Domestic Work at the Local, National and Transnational Levels.

Evie Tastsoglou, Saint Mary's University, Canada

Laura Alpranti-Maratou, National Centre for Social Research (EKKE), Greece

Women's Paid and Unpaid Labor in Brazil: A Study in Inequality Between and Among Gender

Solange Simoes, Eastern Michigan University

The Global Meets the Local:

An Analysis of the Impact of Global Economic Reform on Ghanaian Women's Work

Akosua K. Darkwah, University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana

Although the session was scheduled to start at 8:30AM, we were thrilled to see a good number of attendees. The papers were so interestingly varied that they captured the attention of the audiences. The lively discussion following the presentations raised thought-provoking questions about seeing gender from different perspectives. Two of the presenters traveled from outside of the USA while the rest of us were from the USA. This intellectually stimulating session reflected how we do global feminist scholarship transnationally, linking the global with the local in our professional endeavors.

(Pictures on page 50)

R32 Participation at the First ISA World Forum of Sociology, Barcelona, Spain 5-8, September 2008

Reported by Margaret Abraham, RC-32 Co-President.

In early September 2008, after many months of planning and preparation, RC32 participated in the ISA First World Forum held in Barcelona, Spain. This major new initiative of the ISA provided an important avenue to bring together many RCs to hold a joint interim conference. The RC32 conference theme was "Weaving Spheres of Knowledge and Action: Sociological Research and Women in Society." Coordinated by the RC32 Co-presidents, Esther Ngan-Ling Chow and Margaret Abraham, and co-organized with the help of the RC32 Board and the larger membership, RC 32 organized 11 independent panel sessions and collaborated with other RCs to organize 8 joint sessions. These independent and joint panels addressed a wide range of issues that led to stimulating dialogue among the attendees.

Many of the RC32 sessions were well attended and all the sessions had strong, thought provoking presentations. Together, the papers covered a range of issues at the micro, meso, and macro levels and helped expand our understanding of women in society.

Topics included: feminist research and practice, feminist methods, action research, work and family, education, migration, environmental sustainability, women's movements, women's rights, violence against women, women in academe, researching women in Africa and the African Diaspora, and Middle Eastern women's movements and activism.

Some of the joint sessions addressed women's participation/exclusion in the public and private contexts; gendered transformation of communication and work; gender and leisure; and racism, nationalism, and ethnic relations as it pertains to women's intersectionality and diasporas. Presentations included research papers based on women in society framed within global, regional and local contexts. The presenters highlighted the problems women encounter, their strategies of resistance, issues of empowerment, women's agency and possible paths for progressive change. Equally important, was the attention paid in some of the papers to the role of institutions, public debate, public policy and public action for bringing about positive change for women, as well as for men. Case studies drew attention to the importance of the situational contexts in understanding women's experiences and some of the papers included comparative and transnational contexts in their analysis. While the papers covered diverse theoretical and methodological approaches, the importance of intersectional analysis was evident in a fair number of the presentations. Important linkages were also made between sociological research and action in addressing women's issues. An independent informal session provided members with the opportunity to bring their newly published books and to discuss the journal publication process with the RC32 Board member and deputy editor of *Gender & Society*.

The active participation of many board members and regional representatives, particularly those from Africa and the Middle East, in developing and organizing panels, immensely enriched the RC32 program. However, some of the scheduled presenters in these sessions and in other sessions were unable to participate in the conference as the Spanish Embassy denied their visas or did not give it on time. In addition, some presenters could not afford the high costs involved in attending such a conference without substantial financial assistance to support their participation. Many of the presenters who could not make it to Barcelona were from the economic South and their inability to participate created a visible gap, both at the conference as a whole, and within some of the sessions of the RC 32 program. This was particularly unfortunate as the RC32 co-presidents and the executive board had specifically developed the program with the goal to push forward the intellectual frontiers of women/gender scholarship worldwide. [NOTE: For more details on the issue of visas see, *Who Does the Talk? Who Does the Walk?* By Nazanin Shahrokni, International Sociological Association Board, Research Committee-32, Middle East Representative]

RC 32 also held its business meeting at this conference and a number of important issues were discussed, including the visa problem. Members also discussed the importance of having diversity and equal representation of women in the overall 2010 program, especially at the plenary and thematic sessions. RC32 co-presidents noted that they would convey this to the Research Council and ISA program committee for the World Congress.

RC32 hosted a well attended reception that was primarily sponsored by a contribution of \$1000 from the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) in USA. This reception was held at the Tapa Tapas Restaurant and provided members with the opportunity to socialize and build social networks while eating delicious tapas!

At the end of the conference, the co-presidents participated in the full day Research Council Business meeting. Esther (RC32 council member) and Margaret (RC32 alternate council member) highlighted some of the key concerns discussed at the RC32 business meeting such as the importance of ensuring diversity at all levels of the conference program for 2010 and the critical necessity to address the problem of participants obtaining visas to attend such conferences. Motions initiated by RC32 as proposed at the earlier RC32 business meeting were put forth and passed by the research council. In addition, Margaret Abraham was elected to the Research Council nominating committee to draw up slates of nominations for those positions on the executive committee to be filled by the Research Council.

Finally, the RC32 co-presidents, thank the board members and the members at large, who actively participated in organizing and chairing sessions. We also thank our colleagues in other RCs who organized joint sessions with RC32 and all those who presented and contributed papers for an intellectually stimulating RC32 program at the First ISA World Forum of Sociology in Barcelona.

WOMEN'S WORLDS 2008: Participants' Contributions.

Judith Lorber, Graduate Center and Brooklyn College, CUNY:

Mundos de Mujeres/Women's Worlds 2008, the 10th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, was held in Madrid, Spain, July 3-9, 2008. Held every three years in different parts of the world and organized by academic and activist women from the host city, the tenth conference was held at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. It was attended by over 3,000 women. The next conference will be held in Ottawa, Canada, July 3-9, 2011.

AN INTERNATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT CONFERENCE

Barbara Sutton, Women's Studies, University at Albany-SUNY, USA:

In an increasingly globalized world--where social injustice crosses national borders--events such as the Women's Worlds Congress acquire special significance. This congress, which takes place in a different country every three years, brings gender research and feminist perspectives on the most pressing social problems to the public spotlight. During six intense days in July 2008, thousands of (mostly) women from various world regions examined violence, migrations, economic globalization, human rights, education systems, public policy, fundamentalisms, the media, and many other critical issues. Through panels, workshops, roundtables, and artistic exhibits and performances, conference participants were exposed to the struggles, experiences, and histories of women of diverse national, socio-economic, ethno-racial, and sexuality backgrounds.

Among the highlights of this conference, was the opportunity to hear in

person internationally known scholars whose work I have reading for years and whose ideas I have found so useful. I also appreciated the interdisciplinarity that characterized the conference, the opportunity to learn not only about new subjects, but also to approach known areas with a different kind of sensibility (e.g. through art) and with different analytic tools and concepts. Besides these structured events, perhaps one of the most compelling aspects of this event for me was the opportunity to meet informally with women who live far away, but who share many of my political goals and academic interests. What a privilege to exchange ideas, to discuss research and politics, while partaking a meal with accomplished women from around the world, all temporarily coinciding in avibrant and beautiful city such as Madrid!

Even though the opportunities to connect with other women were countless, the conference was also a contested site. For example, within this congress issues concerning prostitution/sexual work were discussed with particular intensity, exposing deep fractures among various groups of women who hope to dismantle social inequalities and improve women's lives. Furthermore, the conference itself was criticized by a local women's group that challenged the notion and proliferation of "gender experts" and claimed "more worlds" for "more women." Cartoons of professional-looking women and stickers demanding a "huelga feminista de expertas en genero"(a feminist strike of gender experts) were plastered in bathrooms, bus stations, and other campus facilities, reminding participants of their own privilege and their accountability to larger communities of women.

I went to this conference hoping to enrich my teaching and research, to gather fresh information and exciting materials to incorporate in my work and political practice. As a person who straddles worlds, navigating cultures in the United States and Argentina (my country of origin), I found multiple opportunities to connect with women who spoke about issues relevant to this multicultural experience. The next Women's Worlds Congress will be held in Canada in 2011. It will hopefully be a fruitful venue for scholars, activists, and policy planners to advance feminist agendas and promote a more just world.



Visa Issues Visa Issues

Who Does the Talk? Who Does the Walk?

Nazanin Shahrokni

International Sociological Association Board, Research Committee-32
Middle East Representative

From September 5 to 8, 2008, Barcelona hosted 2549 sociologists from 87 countries who had come to attend The First ISA Forum of Sociology.¹ A closer look at the figures, however, reveals that almost half of the participants came from five countries: Spain, United Kingdom, United States of America, Germany, and France. Since the theme of the conference was “Sociological Research and Public Debate”, these figures raise serious concern about the representativeness of the “public” that was holding the debate.

The Statutes of the International Sociological Association clearly state that ISA’s “function is to represent sociologists everywhere” and its objective is to “secure and develop institutional and personal contacts between sociologists and other social scientists throughout the world.”² Could ISA claim to represent sociologists everywhere, when there were none or only a few participants from most of the Middle Eastern and African countries? The problem is not always that most of these countries lack a strong sociological community, or are short of motivated sociologists. The problem, at least as far participation in The First ISA Forum of Sociology was concerned, was the many hurdles that many of the Middle Eastern and African participants had to face before arriving to Barcelona. Some never made it.

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The RC-32, co-presidents coordinated a program with panels specifically designed to include participants from different regions. However, the denial of visas by the Spanish embassy to some of the participants from specific countries, coupled with the challenge in meeting the financial costs associated with participating in such conferences was a major impediment to achieving global representation at the ISA-WF in Barcelona.

The panel organized by RC-32 Middle East representatives was titled “Middle Eastern Women’s Movements and Activism in the Globalized World: Research and Action.” We received 11 abstracts, nine of which were included in the panel. The number of presenters shrank to seven when two of the presenters withdrew their papers, due to financial problems. From among our remaining presenters, two were from Iran, one from Morocco, one from Turkey, one from France, and two from the United State of America.

¹ Figures are taken from: http://www.isa-sociology.org/barcelona_2008/registration_statistics.htm.

² http://www.isa-sociology.org/about/isa_statutes.htm.

On September 6th we gathered in a room at the conference venue in Barcelona to listen to our American and French colleagues presenting their works on the Middle Eastern women's movements and activism. The two presenters from Iran and the one from Morocco never made it to the conference, due to visa problems.

The two Iranian scholars (one an established university professor and a women's right activist, and the other a PhD candidate from one of the most reputable universities in Tehran) were moving back and forth between their homes, universities and the Spanish embassy in Tehran, while most of us were enjoying the luxury of sitting behind our desks, polishing our conference papers.

Nayereh Tavakoli, faculty of sociology at Payam-e Noor University of Iran, states that in order to make appointments, receive the appropriate forms, deliver her documents, and follow up on the visa procedure she visited the Spanish embassy five times and each time she had to wait in line for a couple of hours. In Nayereh's case, RC-32 actually intervened by sending a formal letter to the Spanish embassy stating that Nayereh is a member of the International Sociological Association and that her paper has been approved for presentation.

"The representative who took my file", Nayereh says, "confirmed that I had submitted all the required documents". On September 1st, however, when Nayereh visited the embassy to get her passport back, she realized that her request for a Spanish visa had been rejected. "I had two Schengen visas in my passport", Nayereh says shockingly and adds "when I asked for an explanation, they told me I should make another appointment and stand in line for a few hours to be able to talk to the consulate." She never went back to the Spanish embassy. Instead, she sent an email to the panel organizers, withdrawing her paper.

Somayeh Sadat Shafiei, the other Iranian scholar had a similar experience. She had visited the Spanish embassy in June 2008, had received the required forms and a list of the required documents. "They had asked me to submit a verification form for my Doctoral status" Somayeh says. Her valid student ID and ISA membership were of no use. Thus, Somayeh started her long journey in the labyrinths of the Iranian bureaucracy. She asked her university for a verification of her Doctoral status and they told her that she should write a request to the Research Division of Allameh Tabatabaee University. And so she did. The Research Division sent her to the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, where they asked her to write another request. And so she did. The Ministry of Science, Research and Technology sent her to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where they finally wrote a letter confirming that she is a PhD candidate at Allameh Tabatabaee University. "The letter was addressed to the Spanish embassy and it was signed and stamped by the Ministry", Somayeh says. She took the letter to the embassy only to hear that "the letter should be from Allameh Tabatabaee University." Somayeh says that she tried to explain that it had taken her a month to get this letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and that the universities are on holiday until the end of August. "They were rude and indifferent" Somayeh says. And so, the only student on our panel decided to withdraw her paper, instead of "going through another round of humiliation."

Iranians were not the only ones who faced visa problems; and the panel on the Middle Eastern women's movements and activism was not the only panel that had shrunk. After our session closed on September 6th, I stayed in the room to collect my things. The next session was on transnational migration in Africa. There were only two

presenters on the panel. “The others could not make it due to visa problems”, the chair told the audience.

Oluyemi Fayomi, one of the African representatives of RC-32, could not join us for the same reason. Hadiza Isa Bazza, from the Center for Peace and Development at the University of Maiduguri, Nigeria, also complained about her visa problems. Hadiza points out that she had to spend about US\$1,000 on her visa, because she had to stay in a city different than her hometown for seven days, waiting to hear from the embassy. She had received her visa on the same day she got on the plane to leave Nigeria, while her other colleague had been told to wait for another two weeks, by which time the conference would have already ended.

The visa problem was not limited to the Middle Eastern and African scholars. Pakistani scholars had similar complaints about the visa procedure. Therefore, Margaret Abraham and Esther Chow, the co-presidents of the RC-32, put the visa issue on the agenda of RC-32 business meeting hoping that RC-32 could somehow rectify the problem by 2010 for the XVII World Congress of Sociology which is to be held from July 11th to 17th in Gothenburg, Sweden.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to the President of the ISA Research Council regarding the discriminatory visa procedures requesting that the Council should somehow intervene to facilitate the visa procedure for those participants whose papers are accepted by the ISA organizers.

The co-presidents, on behalf of the RC-32, also submitted a motion that the ISA Office contact the Swedish Embassy in 2009 to make sure that participants whose papers will be accepted by the ISA organizers will get their visas to attend the next World Congress of Sociology. The motion was passed at the business meeting of the ISA Research Council on September 9, 2008. RC-32 also requested that formal invitation letters be sent out by the main ISA office well in advance to help participants obtain their visas.

Michael Burawoy, the vice president of the National Associations, also promised that “the visa issue will be brought before the Council or the Program Committee of the 2010 meetings” and expressed the hope that “the local organizing committee in Sweden and Congrex will do everything they can to make sure that we do much better in Gothenburg than we did in Barcelona.”

“I have no defense of the situation,” Burawoy said. “The distribution of members and conference participants from across the world is always skewed in favor of Europe, U.S., and Canada but in this case the situation was exacerbated by obstacles to obtaining visas” he added. The vice president of the National Associations does not think that “there are any easy solutions”, but he said that the forthcoming Conference of the Council of National Associations will discuss the variety of challenges posed by global inequalities.³

It is good that we in RC-32 played an active role in highlighting the visa issue and let’s hope that in 2010, those who do the walk get to do the talk as well.

³ The conference theme is "Facing an Unequal world: Challenges for Sociology".
<http://www.ios.sinica.edu.tw/cna/index.php>



NEWS FROM REGIONS

AFRICA

Contributed by Akosua Adomako Ampofo.

The Centre for Gender Studies and Advocacy (CEGENSA)

University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana

CEGENSA was set up by the University of Ghana in 2004 to institutionalise gender as core business of the university. The centre's core mandate includes curriculum development, research, policy development, extension and outreach, mentoring, and the provision of sexual assault counselling. In the latter half of 2008 CEGENSA carried out a number of exciting activities including a workshop with popular musicians and an exhibition and symposium to mark the university's 60th anniversary.

Changing the Portrayal of Women in Popular Music

In July 2008 the Centre for Gender Studies and Advocacy at the University of Ghana held a workshop that brought together researchers, popular artistes, disk jockeys and radio presenters. The workshop was part of the research project, *Changing Representations of Women in Popular Music*, led by Prof. Akosua Adomako Ampofo, Head, Centre for Gender Studies and Advocacy, and Dr. Awo Mana Asiedu, Department of Theatre Arts, both of the University of Ghana. This project is, in turn, part of larger research endeavour called, *Pathways of Women's Empowerment*, involving an international consortium of researchers from academic institutions networking with women's organisations, women's rights groups and policy makers. The consortium seeks to understand women's conceptions of empowerment; examine how policy changes

affect women; explore with women their everyday lives; and influence policy discourses as well as development praxis. The Convenor of the West Africa Hub of the project is Prof. Takyiwa Manuh, the Director of the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon. In attendance at the meeting were RPC colleagues from Ghana, Nigeria, and Egypt as well as veteran musicians and radio presenters.

Participants of the workshop, which was facilitated by Prof. Akosua Anyidoho, Dept. of Linguistics, reflected on the messages encoded in popular Ghanaian song texts and brainstormed on alternative ways that women could be (re)presented in popular songs. Participants found that the messages conveyed about women are often negative and tended to reinforce stereotypical societal perceptions of women. For example, they found that some of the songs focused on women's bodies and portrayed them as sex objects, while others tended to portray women as fickle minded, unfaithful, money lovers, exploitative, competitive, gossips, submissive, jealous, etc. However, there were also texts that portrayed positive images about women. For example, some of the texts reflected women as keepers of tradition and history, educators, counsellors, hardworking, virtuous, physically beautiful, virtuous, or as selfless and caring mothers/partners. Some of the lyrics on themes of sexuality also portrayed positive notions of desire and female-male physical love.

Popular music is a very powerful medium for (re)enforcing and dictating what is in fashionable or acceptable to society. Both the youth and adults look to popular music for relaxation and entertainment. The songs are played on radio and television, and in the latter case are typically accompanied by music videos which often depict women's bodies through dance (often quite provocative). Daily music booms from shops, restaurants, taxis, and buses; social events such as marriage and naming ceremonies, funerals, commissioning of projects are deemed dull without music. Thus, the whole society, both young and old, is exposed to the songs and the messages musicians convey. The lyrics are repeated in daily conversations and become explanations for social intercourse. The participants then considered alternative representations of women. The artistes and the radio presenters agreed they needed to expose the public to songs that do not stereotype women. According to Diana Hopson, President of MUSIGA, most songs about women are composed by men. She suggested therefore that women needed to be encouraged and supported to sing about themselves. There were also calls to involve female musicians in setting new standards: to write alternative songs texts about themselves.

For more information on the research project and the workshop, go to:

www.pathways-of-empowerment
www.pathwaysghana.blogspot.com

by Akofa Anyidoho, Nana Dansowaa Kena-Amoah, and Akosua Adomako Ampofo.

WOMEN @ UG @ 60 PHOTO EXHIBITION

At an impressive ceremony to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the University of Ghana, CEGENSA and the University of Ghana's ICT Directorate mounted a photo exhibition on September 15, 2008 to celebrate the contributions of the many women

associated with the University. The launch was attended by members of the University community, other sister Universities, government, the diplomatic corps, Heads and representatives from Junior and Senior High Schools, Civil Society Organisations, the press, and the general public. Invited guests were welcomed to the ceremony grounds with music and cultural displays by the (University) Ghana Dance Ensemble.

In her welcome remarks, the Head of CEGENSA, Prof. Akosua Adomako Ampofo noted that often when the stories of the University's contributions to society are told there are many stories that are missed, and often these are the stories of women. Thus, CEGENSA and the ICT Directorate decided to launch a photo exhibition, based on archival, historical and field research, to throw the spot light on some of the many heroines in the 60-year history of the University of Ghana and to tell their stories. The Deputy Director of ICT, Ms. Ama Dadson highlighted that these inspiring stories tap into the digital promise of accessibility and that the “Women @ UG @ 60” online archive will offer a single access point to hundreds of images and sound bites created and collected from all over the world. In a short speech before launching the photo exhibition, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Prof. C. N. B. Tagoe, stated that the mounting of the exhibition to honour women is a sign of the times and a manifestation of the University's coming of age as an institution of higher learning.

“WOMEN @ UG @ 60” SYMPOSIUM

On September 16, 2008, the day after the photo exhibition, CEGENSA hosted a symposium, also to celebrate 60 years of women in the University's life. Prof. Takyiwaa Manuh, Director Institute of African Studies (IAS) chaired the symposium and led the speakers as they traveled down memory lane, reflecting on their experiences of the different generations of the University's life. Prof. Ann Seidman who represented the 1960s is an Economist at the Boston University School of Law who taught at the University of Ghana in the immediate post-independence years. Other speakers included: Mrs. Dorcas Coker-Appiah, a lawyer and UG alumnus, Executive Director of the Gender and Human Rights Documentation Centre, who represented the 1970's; Mr. Aloysius Denkabe, Senior lecturer in the English Department and the Ag. Director of the Sports Directorate who represented the 1970s; Dr. Gloria Otoo, a recent Ph.D, and currently a lecturer in the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, represented the 1990s; and finally Ms Nana Afua Twum-Barimah, a 2007 alumnus and “Challenge” award winner represented the new millennium.

For more on CEGENSA visit <http://cegensa.ug.edu.gh>

Lotsmart N. FONJONG, Senior Lecturer of Geography and Gender Studies,
Vice-Dean, Faculty of Social & Management Sciences, University of Buea, Cameroon
writes:

- One of my papers Gender Roles in Natural resource management was published in *Local Environment*, 5:461-475.

- I also won INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE, IDRC-Canada grant of 482 700 CAD to carry out a research on: The Impact of land Tenure practices on women's Rights to Land in Anglophone Cameroon and Implications on Sustainable Development. The project went operational last month.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AND THE PACIFIC RIM

Report from Regional Representatives (Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Rim)

Reported by Cynthia Joseph, Faculty of Education, Monash University, Australia, & Alpha Possamai-Inesedy, University of Western Sydney, Australia

Greetings from the Southern Hemisphere! In this report from the RC 32 regional representatives (Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Rim), we provide some interesting information about research grants, conferences and relevant publications.

The recent round of Australian Research Council Discovery and Linkage grants [<http://www.arc.gov.au/>] was announced in October 2008. The ARC supports the highest-quality fundamental and applied research and research training through national competition across all disciplines. 20.7% of ARC Discovery proposals were funded in this round. Some projects examining gender and cultural issues that were funded in this round include

- Prof D Silove; Dr SJ Rees; Prof AB Zwi; Prof RM Thorpe, University of New South Wales Understanding anger and its consequences amongst women in conflict-affected Timor Leste: Implications for enhancing sustainable development
- Dr RV Patulny, University of New South Wales. Poor Women and Lonely Men: Examining Gendered Social Inclusion and Connection in Australia
- A/Prof BM Neilson; Prof M Ang; Dr N Rossiter; Prof ME Morris; Prof R Samaddar; Prof H Wang; Prof S Mezzadra, University of Western Sydney Culture in Transition: Creative Labour and Social Mobilities in the Asian Century
- Dr AW Gorman-Murray, University of Wollongong, Men on the home front: spatialities of domesticity and masculinity
- A/Prof MC Patterson, University of Melbourne Relatively Speaking: Kinship Matters in Vanuatu
- Prof SY Kneebone, Monash University. Law, Governance and Regulation of Intra-regional Labour Migration in South East Asia: An Agenda for Protection and Development

RC 32 Australasia representative Cynthia Joseph is part of a research team that was awarded an ARC Discovery grant : Prof TL Seddon; Dr C Joseph; Dr A Devos; Dr LL

Henriksson; Dr B Niemeyer The Teaching Occupation in Learning Societies: A global ethnography of occupational boundary work

Publications

A special issue of the journal *Race, Ethnicity and Education* with the theme *Black Feminisms and Postcolonial Paradigms: Researching Educational Inequalities* co-edited by Prof Heidi Safia Mirza, Institute of Education, University of London and Dr. Cynthia Joseph, Monash University, Australia is to be published as the March 2009 issue. Contributors to this issue that considers current debates on the intersectionalities of race, gender and difference in interrogating the politics of equality in transnational times include Gloria Ladson-Billings (US); Njoki Wane (Canada); Sara Ahmed (UK), Heidi Mirza (UK), Ann Phoenix (UK), and Cynthia Joseph (Australia/Malaysia).

Below are some recent publications in the area of Gender, Culture and Society with a focus on the Australasia region.

- http://www.amazon.com/Gender-Ethnicity-Employment-Non-English-Contributions/dp/3790819999/ref=sr_1_8?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226110213&sr=1-8Rowshan Haque and M. Ohidul Haque (2009) *Gender, Ethnicity and Employment: Non-English Speaking Background Migrant Women in Australia*. Springer:Physica-Verlag Heidelberg
- Bina D'Costa and Katrina Lee-Koo (2008) (Eds). *Gender and Global Politics in the Asia-Pacific* Palgrave Macmillan
- Diane Bell (2009) (Ed) *Listen to Ngarrindjeri Women Speaking: Kungun Ngarrindjeri Mimir Yunnan*. Spinifex Press
- Susan Martin (2008). *Women and Empire 1750-1939: Volume 1: Australia (History of Feminism)*. Routledge
- Saturnino M., Jr. Borras, Marc Edelman, and Cristobal Kay (2008). http://www.amazon.com/Transnational-Agrarian-Movements-Confronting-Globalization/dp/1405190418/ref=sr_1_10?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226110566&sr=1-10*Transnational Agrarian Movements Confronting Globalization* Wiley-Blackwell
- Elizabeth Hoban (2008) *Cambodian Women: Childbirth and Maternity in Rural Southeast Asia (ASAA Women in Asia Series)* Routledge
- Annette Fuentes and Barbara Ehrenreich (Paperback - April 1, 2009) *Women in the Global Factory (Inc Pamphlet)* by South end Press
- Emiko Ochiai & Barbara Molony (2008) (Ed) *Asia's New Mothers: Crafting Gender Roles and Childcare Networks in East and Southeast Asian Societies* Hawai'i: University of Hawai'i Press
- Johan A. Lindquist (2008) *The Anxieties of Mobility: Migration and Tourism in the Indonesian Borderlands (Southeast Asia: Politics, Meaning, and Memory)* by Johan A. Lindquist. Hawai'i: University of Hawai'i Press

Conferences

The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) annual conference will be held from Dec 2-5 2008 in Melbourne, Australia. www.tasa.org.au The theme of this conference is Re-imagining Sociology. Keynote speakers for this conference include: Prof Ghassan Hage, Future Generation Professor of Anthropology and Social Theory, University of Melbourne; Professor Barbara A. Miszta of Leicester University and Professor Philippa Pattison of University of Melbourne. Some interesting papers in relation to gender issues to be presented at this conference include

- Choice and its Consequences: Young Women and a Life of Choices - Amy Curwain, Monash University
- How can you put a title on something like that?" Marginalised young women"s interpretations of their narratives - Juliet Watson, University of Melbourne
- Amber Light Project: Attitudes of Very Young Women Toward Maternal Age at First Birth and Fertility. - Marilyn Anderson, James Cook University
- Tracing the An Unequal Equality: Feminism, Postfeminism and Young Women - Penelope Robinson, UWS
- Women's return to paid work experiences, transitions and arrangements - Sheree Cartwright, RMIT University
- Coexisting detraditionalization and retraditionalization trends in young women's attitudes towards marriage - Emma Kirby, The University of Newcastle
- Re-masculinising agricultural space: Men"s response to women"s farm networks - Barbara Pini, John Curtin Institute of Public Policy

The Ninth International Women in Asia (WIA) conference was held at the University of Queensland, Australia from 29 September to 1 October 2008. The WIA Conferences have been held regularly since 1981 and are supported by the Women's Forum of the Asian Studies Association of Australia. <http://www.womeninasia.org/index.html>.

A Decade of the Life Course, a conference held in September 29-30 in Canberra, Australia (<http://lifecourse.anu.edu.au/conference/index.html>) presented findings from a longitudinal project, 'Negotiating the Life Course' (<http://lifecourse.anu.edu.au/>) undertaken by the Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute, the Australian National University and the School of Social Science at the University of Queensland. The project and conference examined and presented information on the changing life courses and decision-making processes of Australian men and women. Themes of investigation included : to extend the theories of human capital and new home economics in explaining women's and men's labour force participation; to map women's and men's work trajectories over their life course, from career entry into retirement, and to develop explanatory models of career trajectories; to identify those aspects of the family-household system and the labour market that facilitate or impede women's involvement with the labour market; and to identify the portfolio of resources that women and men draw upon throughout their lives when making decisions about career and family.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Caribbean

From Rhoda Reddock:

I have now assumed a new position as Deputy Campus Principal of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad and Tobago . A new experience but extremely time-consuming.

Canada

From Ann Denis:

1. University of Ottawa has just launched free standing interdisciplinary Masters and Doctoral Programs in Women's Studies. These join the existing collaborative Masters program in which Women's Studies may be combined with Sociology (and also with a number of other disciplines). In this bilingual university students may take courses and/or submit written work in either English or French. For more information, see <http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/womenst/eng/>.

2. Ann Denis. 2008 'Intersectional Analysis: A contribution of feminism to sociology', *International Sociology Review of Books*, 23:5: 677-694.

3. Over half the material (articles and books reviews) in *International Sociology Review of Books*, 23, 5, 2008 is devoted to feminism and gender.

United States

Patricia Leavy:

I'd like to announce the publication of three new books: Patricia Leavy (2009) *Method Meets Art: Arts-Based Research Practice*, Guilford Press; Keri Iyall Smith and Patricia Leavy (Eds.) (2008) *Hybrid Identities: Theoretical and Empirical Examinations*, Brill Publications; Sharlene Hesse-Biber and Patricia Leavy (Eds) (2008) *Handbook Of Emergent Methods*, Guilford Press.

Manisha Desai:

My book 'Gender and the Politics of Possibilities: Rethinking Globalization' is now out.

Shirley Jackson:

I was interviewed twice by El Mercurio, a newspaper in Santiago, Chile.

- 1) "Obama pone tema racial al centro del debate" [Obama puts the subject of race at the center of the debate] by Jean Palou Egoaguirre, June 29, 2008
- 2) "Los medios de comunicacion "negros" alineados con Obama" [The "black" mass media aligns with Obama] by Gonzalo Vedga Sfrasani, August 3, 2008

Bandana Purkayastha:

I was interviewed by NBC Nightly News for their series on 'We The People.' The peice aired on October 16, 2008.

Several of my/co-authored chapters may interest fellow RC-32 members: Bridges and Chasms: Orientalism and the Making of Indian Americans in New England, in *Asian Americans in New England*, edited by Monica Chiu; Tagore and Human Rights, in *Celebrating Tagore*, edited by Clinton Sealey and Rama Datta; Sex Trafficking in South Asia, in *Globalization and Third World Women*, edited by Ligaya McGovern and Isidor Welman; Globalization and Mothering, in *Globalization and Women's Empowerment*, edited by Samir DasGupta; and, Building a Fabric of Peace: Notes from the Field, in *Armed Conflict and Conflict Resolution: Sociological Perspectives*, edited by Giuseppe Caforio, Gerhard Kuemmel, and Bandana Purkayastha.

OTHER RECENT EVENTS

TOURISM CONFERENCE N THE PINK CITY, JAIPUR INDIA.

The ISA RC 50 International Conference on Tourism on "Ever the twain shall meet; relating international and domestic tourism" was organized by Dr. Ishwar Modi, Vice-President, ISA Research Committee on International Tourism & Organizing Secretary, ISA RC 50 International Conference on Tourism, in India at Jaipur during November 24-26, 2008 on behalf of ISA RC 50 (International Tourism). Some RC-32 members attended.

The 7th Garnet PhD School

"Global Governance, Regionalism & the Role of the EU: The Gender Dimension"
was held on December 1-5, 2008, University of Kassel, Germany

The GARNET PhD schools are part of the GARNET Network of Excellence financed by the European Commission's 6th FP (2005-2009), which focuses on "Global Governance, Regionalization and Regulation: the Role of the EU". The GARNET PhD school offers a week-long, intensive PhD seminar, based upon active student participation and academic excellence, focusing on theoretical issues and research methodologies.

The 7th GARNET PhD seminars focus on the gender dimension of the European integration process, global governance and regionalization. While gender is one of the basic structural categories in socio-economic processes and their governance, theoretical and empirical contributions obtained from undertaking gender sensitive analyses are not always clear. Consequently, many socio-political research designs do not take gender into account. Against this background, the PhD seminar offer both PhD students, who are already working with a gender perspective, and those who are not, the opportunity to more fully grasp the implications and possibilities of integrating gender into research on European integration, global governance, and regionalization.

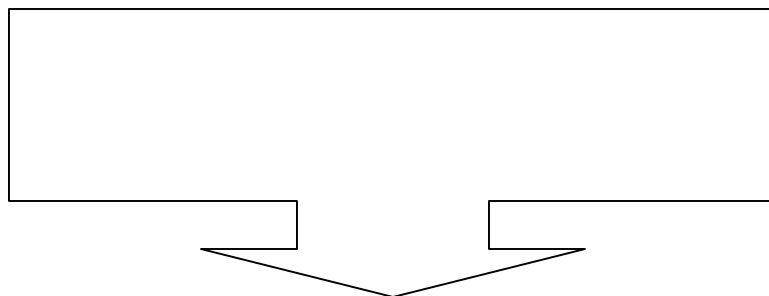
The seminar brought together approximately 25 PhD students involved in all fields related to global governance, regionalism and the EU, who share an interest in gender issues. They will have the opportunity to discuss with academic researchers and gender experts from the EU and international institutions. They include Prof. Isabella Bakker PhD (York University, Toronto), Prof. Brigitte Young PhD (University of Münster), Prof. Dr. Thanh-Dam Truong (ISS, The Hague), Prof. Dr. Alison Woodward (Free University of Brussels), Prof. Dr. Violeta Zentai (Central European University, Budapest) and Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer (University of Kassel).

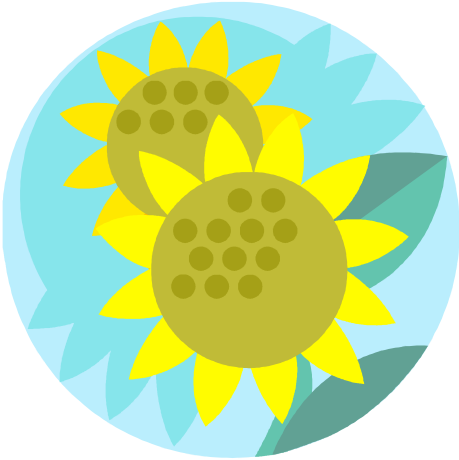
PhD School coordinators: Prof. Dr. Brigitte Young (University of Muenster), Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer, Dr. Helen Schwenken (University of Kassel)

Additional information on the reimbursement can be found in the attached document and on the Garnet website: http://www.garnet-eu.org/PhD_School.321.0.html



Members BOOKS





CALLS FOR PAPERS, MANUSCRIPTS.

ADVANCES IN GENDER RESEARCH

An annual series published by Emerald
Series Co-Editors: Marcia Texler Segal and Vasilikie Demos

We are now seeking submissions for volume 14 to be published in 2010. We are interested in original manuscripts dealing with new developments in the study of gender informed by a variety of feminist frameworks. Articles that are theoretical, empirical or applied, dealing with any nation or region, or taking a comparative perspective, are welcome.

Advances in Gender Research is an ideal venue for papers on gender, including those that are of a traditional journal-article length, as well as extended essays that explore topics in greater depth. Authors from all parts of the world are encouraged to submit manuscripts. However, all manuscripts must be in English and submitted electronically in MSWord or WordPerfect, and all contributors must be able to communicate with the editors and the publisher via e-mail.

Send one page abstracts or drafts of papers no later than January 15, 2009 to msegal@ius.edu and demosvp@morris.umn.edu

FEMINIST AND CRITICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY Series.

Series Editors: Brigitte Young and Uta Ruppert.

About the series

The book series offers a forum for new research perspectives to highlight the multifaceted interconnectedness between the processes of global economic transformations, forms of global governance, and transnational civil society movements. Its goal is to encourage a critical exchange of diverse theoretical and methodological analysis as well as different empirical studies and methods from various regions of the world. Moreover, the series intends to function as “feminist and critical literacy” for the traditional fields of political science such as political economy, international relations, and comparative politics.

Theoretically and methodologically interesting monographs and edited books focusing on critical and relevant debates, discussions and arguments from the perspective of feminist and critical political economy are to be published in either German or English. Manuscripts are to reflect the range of feminist and critical political economy theories and analysis (such as feminist economics, feminist development studies, institutionalism, post-keynesianism, heterodox economics, post-structuralism, post-colonialism, neo-Marxist and Gramscian theories, French Regulation School, intersectionality). Contributions on topics such as engendering macroeconomics, global public goods, global governance, international and regional organisations, transnational actors, and social reproduction are just as welcome as comparative feminist and critical studies on the interaction between global, local and regional economic and development processes. Both qualitative and quantitative studies are welcome.

The procedure

Submitted manuscripts are evaluated through an anonymous evaluation process by members of the international editorial board. For submitted dissertations and habilitations the evaluations from the qualification commissions will be used as guidance. The final decision for publication rests with the editors. Authors will be informed within a period of 3-5 months of the decision with the respective evaluations and comments in regard to possible re-submissions. A maximum of 3-5 books per year will be published in order to guarantee high quality standards of the new series.

www.nomos.de



ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA / UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

INSTITUT D'ÉTUDES DES FEMMES / INSTITUTE OF WOMEN'S STUDIES

English text follows

Candidatures pour la bourse de Chercheure invitée de la Banque de Montréal en études des femmes

Année scolaire 2009-2010

L'Institut d'études des femmes de l'Université d'Ottawa sollicite des candidatures pour la bourse Chercheure invitée de la Banque de Montréal en études des femmes 2009-2010. L'objectif de ce fonds est d'attirer des chercheuses de haut calibre intéressées aux questions des femmes ou de rapports sociaux de sexe. D'une durée de trois (3) à six (6) mois, le séjour de la chercheure invitée devra s'effectuer au cours de l'année scolaire allant de septembre à avril. Les récipiendaires, y compris celles qui disposeraient d'autres fonds, recevront une somme maximale de 3 000 \$ qui pourra servir à couvrir les frais de recherche et (ou) de voyage. La chercheure invitée devra présenter ses travaux dans le cadre de conférences et (ou) de séminaires. On s'attend à ce qu'elle s'implique dans la communauté des étudiant-e-s et de ses collègues. Plus de détails seront fournis sur demande.

Ce concours s'adresse aux chercheuses canadiennes et non-canadiennes, aux professeures permanentes et non permanentes, ainsi qu'aux chercheuses autonomes et inscrites au postdoctorat qui poursuivent des recherches féministes et critiques. Les candidates n'ayant pas complété leurs études de doctorat ne sont pas admissibles.

Les candidates sont priées de soumettre leur curriculum vitae, un projet de recherche détaillé, des copies de leurs publications récentes, la période prévue pour leur séjour à l'Université d'Ottawa, ainsi que les noms de deux répondant-e-s.

Les demandes devront parvenir au :

Comité de sélection
 Chercheure invitée de la Banque de Montréal en études des femmes
 Institut d'études des femmes, Université d'Ottawa
 143 Séraphin Marion, Ottawa (Ontario) K1N 6N5 Canada
 Téléphone : (613) 562-5791
 Télécopieur : (613) 562-5994
 Courrier électronique : mcharbo@uOttawa.ca

La date de clôture pour soumettre les candidatures est le 31 décembre 2008.

Applications for the Bank of Montreal Visiting Scholar in Women's Studies

2009-2010 Academic Year

The Institute of Women's Studies at the University of Ottawa is inviting applications for its Bank of Montreal Visiting Scholar in Women's Studies for 2009-2010. The purpose of this fund is to attract highly qualified researchers working on gender and women's issues. The Visiting Scholar's stay should be from three (3) to six (6) months within the university's academic year, from September to April. The recipient will receive a maximum of \$3,000 which may be used to supplement research and/or travel expenses. Scholars with alternative funding will be considered. The Visiting Scholar will be required to present her ongoing research project in conferences and/or seminars and to interact with the community of students and colleagues. Additional information will be provided on request.

The Institute of Women's Studies invites applications from Canadian and non-Canadian scholars, both tenured and untenured faculty, and from postdoctoral, independent scholars who are pursuing critical feminist research. Individuals must have a Ph.D. to be considered for this position.

Applications should include a curriculum vitae, a detailed statement of the research project, copies of recent publications, the dates of the proposed stay at the University of Ottawa and the names of two referees.

Please forward to:

Selection Committee

Bank of Montreal Visiting Scholar in Women's Studies
 Institute of Women's Studies , University of Ottawa
 143 Séraphin Marion, Ottawa , Ontario , K1N 6N5 Canada
 Telephone : (613) 562-5791
 Fax : (613) 562-5994
 E-mail : mcharbo@uOttawa.ca

The closing date for submitting applications is 31 December 2008.

Margot Charbonneau, Adjointe administrative / Administrative Assistant, Institut d'études des femmes / Institute of Women's Studies, Université d'Ottawa / University of Ottawa, 143 Seraphin-Marion, Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5 ; Tel : 613-562-5800, poste / ext. 1890 ; Fax : 613-562-5994 ; mcharbo@uOttawa.ca



UPCOMING CONFERENCES.

French Association of Sociology

Thematic network 24 "Gender, Class, Race. Social relationships and construction of the otherness".

In a context of globalization where accelerates the movement of relocation of the working strength so male as feminine, the social relationships still become more complex. Both dimensions, of sex and class, must be crossed with that of the race. Because, if we admit that the gender builds the sex, the capitalism the class and the racism the race, we have to seize these three social systems in their interaction to understand how, from a naturalization of the otherness, build themselves the relationships of domination, how are born and develop resistances and revolts. In this perspective, the problem of the social relationships of sex and gender is an essential way of analyse when it is thought in its "coextensivité" with the other social relationships.

The third congress of the AFS which will take place from 14 to 17 April 2009 at the University Paris Diderot (site Les Grands Moulins, Paris), is dedicated to the subject: Violence and society. The Thematic Network 24 will organize five sessions: (1) to Identify and to qualify the violence, (2) Violence in the work, (3) Violence and city, (4) Resistances and militancy, (5) Economic-sexual Exchanges. In these sessions will be studied the expression forms of the violence, its motivations, reorganizations and effects, through the perspective of “the gender/ social relationships of sex” but also via a reading privileging the articulation of the social relationships of gender/sex to the other relationships of power.

Responsable: [Kergoat Danièle](#)

Contact : daniele.kergoat@wanadoo.fr

Emmanuelle.lada@wanadoo.fr

Site internet : <http://www.rt24-afs.fr>

Asociación francesa de sociología

Red temática 24: “Género, Clase, Raza. Relaciones sociales y construcción de la alteridad”

En un contexto de globalización en el que se acelera el movimiento de “de-relocalización” de la fuerza de trabajo tanto masculina como femenina, las relaciones sociales se vuelven más complejas. Las dimensiones de sexo y de clase deben ser cruzadas con la de raza. Porque, si se admite que el género construye el sexo, el capitalismo la clase y el racismo la raza, se deben de considerar estos tres sistemas sociales en su interacción con el fin de entender cómo, a partir de una naturalización de la alteridad, se construyen las relaciones de dominación, nacen y se desarrollan la resistencia y las rebeliones. En esta perspectiva, la problemática de las relaciones sociales de sexo y de género representa un modo de entrada esencial cuando es pensado en su “coextensividad” con las demás relaciones sociales.

El tercer congreso de la AFS que tendrá lugar del 14 al el 17 de abril de 2009 en la Universidad de Paris Diderot (sitio Des Grands Moulins, Paris) estará dedicado al tema: Violencias y sociedad. La Red Temática 24 organiza cinco sesiones: (1) Identificar y cualificar las violencias, (3) Violencias en el trabajo, (3) Violencias y ciudad, (4) Resistencias y militantismo, (5) Intercambios económico-sexuales. Estas sesiones permitirán estudiar las formas de expresión de la violencia, sus resortes, sus recomposiciones y sus efectos, a partir de un enfoque sobre el “género/las relaciones sociales de sexo” pero también vía una lectura que privilegia la articulación de las relaciones de género/sexo con las relaciones de poder.

Responsable: [Kergoat Danièle](#)

Contacto: daniele.kergoat@wanadoo.fr Emmanuelle.lada@wanadoo.fr

Sitio internet: <http://www.rt24-afs.fr>

Association Française de Sociologie

Réseau Thématique 24 « Genre, Classe, Race. Rapports sociaux et construction de l'altérité »

Dans un contexte de globalisation où s'accélère le mouvement de dé-relocalisation de la force de travail tant masculine que féminine, les rapports sociaux se complexifient encore. Les deux dimensions, de sexe et de classe, doivent être croisées avec celle de race. Car si l'on admet que le genre construit le sexe, le capitalisme la classe et le racisme la race, on se doit de saisir ces trois systèmes sociaux dans leur interaction afin de saisir comment, à partir d'une naturalisation de l'altérité, se construisent les rapports de domination, comment naissent et se développent résistances et révoltes. Dans cette perspective, la problématique des rapports sociaux de sexe et de genre est un mode d'entrée essentiel quand il est pensé dans sa coextensivité avec les autres rapports sociaux.

*Le troisième congrès de l'AFS qui aura lieu du 14 au 17 avrils 2009 à l'Université Paris Diderot, site des grands moulins, Paris, est consacré au thème : *Violences et société*. Le Réseau Thématique 24 organisera cinq sessions : (1) Identifier et qualifier les violences, (2) Violences au travail, (3) violences et ville, (4) Résistances et militantisme, (5) Echanges économico-sexuels qui seront des entrées privilégiées pour étudier les formes d'expression de la violence, ses ressorts, ses recompositions et ses effets, à partir d'un éclairage par le genre/les rapports sociaux de sexe mais aussi via une lecture privilégiant l'articulation des rapports de sexe/genre aux autres rapports de pouvoir.*

Responsable: [Kergoat Danièle](#)

Contact : daniele.kergoat@wanadoo.fr Emmanuelle.lada@wanadoo.fr

Site internet : <http://www.rt24-afs.fr>

1

APPEL A COMMUNICATIONS

CONGRES AFS, 14-17 avril 2009.

Université Paris Diderot, site des grands moulins (Paris)

RTF 24

Genre, classe, race.

Rapports sociaux et construction de l'altérité.

Le 3e congrès de l'Association Française de Sociologie est consacré au thème « Violences et société ». La première partie de l'appel à communication (A) est consacré à ce thème général, en le développant en trois axes tandis que la seconde partie de l'appel à

communication (B) propose de poursuivre la réflexion propre du RT sur l'articulation des rapports Genre, classe, race.

A- Violences et sociétés : l'apport du genre et d'une lecture en termes d'articulation des rapports sociaux de genre, de classe et de race.

Plusieurs travaux se sont intéressés à la violence dans une perspective de genre/rapports sociaux de sexe. Dans leur diversité, tous s'accordent sur un double constat qui forme l'aspect le plus novateur de leurs résultats : 1) la violence est un indicateur pertinent de l'état des rapports sociaux de sexe dans une société donnée et qui permet donc, en partie, de déchiffrer cette dernière 2) la violence prôtée (et réelle bien souvent) à l'un et l'autre sexe est constitutive de leur identité sexuelle du moment.

Le thème général du Congrès de Paris se place donc au cœur des problématiques du RT d'autant que le degré de violence –ou la tolérance sociale à l'égard de cette violence – selon le genre varie aussi très sensiblement dans une société donnée selon la classe sociale des auteur- e-s et leur « race » (qu'elle soit ou non comme aujourd'hui dissimulée derrière les invocations de la religion ou de « la civilisation »). Ainsi, la lourdeur de la peine d'un même crime domestique variera considérablement selon qu'il est reconnu « crime passionnel » ou expression de brutalité aveugle et cette reconnaissance elle-même variera selon le statut social et la « racialisation » de l'auteur édictée par le juge. La réflexion sur la violence pose donc d'emblée dans toute sa complexité la question de l'articulation des trois rapports sociaux dont nous tentons, dans le RT, de comprendre les multiples modes.

Trois axes ont été retenus par le RT 24 dont certains font l'objet de sessions jointes avec d'autres RT. Chacun de ces axes constitue une entrée privilégiée pour étudier les formes d'expression de la violence, de ses ressorts, recompositions et de ses effets, à partir d'un éclairage par le genre/les rapports sociaux de sexe mais aussi via une lecture privilégiant l'articulation des rapports de sexe/genre aux autres rapports de pouvoir. La question de l'action des rapports sociaux de sexe ainsi que celle de leur articulation avec les rapports sociaux de classe et de « race » pourront donc constituer un fil directeur et un point de départ communs aux communications présentées. Le choix de ces trois axes ne renvoie pas à une analyse segmentée des violences. Il s'agit d'apporter, à partir de contextes, d'outils et de terrains pluriels, des éléments d'analyse pour saisir les différentes formes qu'elles revêtent.

On s'intéressera aussi à leurs dynamiques et à leurs lignes de continuité, en conservant le souci, par-delà les différenciations étudiées, de l'articulation des rapports de genre, classe, race/ethnicité.

2

1- Violences et travail : une lecture Genre, Classe, Race.

Des communications présentées au RT 24 lors du précédent congrès avaient pointé les formes sexuées mais aussi classées et ethnicisées/racisées des violences au travail qui pèsent sur les salarié-e-s. L'organisation d'une session consacrée à « violences et travail » s'imposait donc, tant pour approfondir des questionnements apparus lors du précédent congrès que pour ouvrir de nouvelles pistes de réflexions.

A la différence d'hier, le-la salarié-e d'aujourd'hui ne doit plus seulement travailler vite, plus vite qu'hier, mais aussi travailler juste, c'est-à-dire, se plier aux exigences flexibles de l'entreprise aussi bien en termes quantitatifs que qualitatifs. Pour ajuster son comportement aux normes de plus en plus prescrites, pour assurer le maintien des flux de production, pour rendre service au client, le-la salarié-e doit mobiliser tout son être, que ce soit mentalement, affectivement et bien sûr physiquement, pour parvenir aux fins fixées par les directions. Ces contraintes ne sont pas sans rappeler celles qui régissent les rapports de dépendance personnelle observables dans la sphère domestique et informelle.

Ce constat ouvre sur plusieurs types d'interrogations qui peuvent être abordées dans cette séance. Une série de questions peut interroger la manière dont se construit la norme du travail dans l'entreprise mais aussi dans d'autres mondes du travail comme, par exemple, les associations. Ici il sera intéressant de comprendre, par des apports de type théorique ou empirique, la manière dont les différents systèmes de pouvoir (de genre, de classe, de race) co-construisent et objectivent le travail formel que chacun-e doit être en mesure de réaliser. Il s'agit de comprendre comment sont réactualisés les processus d'assignation différentielle des postes et des emplois selon le sexe, la classe et la « race », mais aussi la manière et par qui les salarié-e-s sont sélectionné-e-s, mobilisé-e-s et mis-es en concurrence. La prise en considération des différentes formes de division du travail productif et reproductif qui participent à organiser le rapport salarial sera privilégiée. Une autre série de questions peut aborder la manière dont les salarié-e-s se réapproprient et transforment en pratique de travail le poids des déterminismes et leur hétéronomie. Aujourd'hui, des enquêtes en sociologie et en psychodynamique du travail montrent des salarié-e-s qui vivent constamment sur le fil du rasoir, qui 'craquent' souvent face aux injonctions paradoxales qui imposent des normes et des procédures impossibles à réaliser pour tenir les objectifs imposés. Certains ont signalé qu'il n'est pas étonnant que la dépression soit devenue la maladie paradigmatique du nouveau capitalisme. Parallèlement l'usure prématurée des corps due aux tâches répétitives sous de très fortes contraintes de temps se développe dans les emplois non qualifiés, que ce soit dans l'industrie ou le tertiaire. Ses conséquences sur les salarié-e-s qui, du fait de la division sociale, ethnique et sexuée du travail sont relégué-e-s dans ces emplois subalternes, sont invisibilisées. Il en est de même des effets de la flexibilité et de la précarisation, auxquelles les femmes peu qualifiées et/ou racisées sont les premières exposées. Les recherches portant sur les emplois qualifiés pointent également les effets de l'organisation du travail sur la santé des salarié-e-s en haut de l'échelle des qualifications, différemment façonnées selon les secteurs d'activité mais aussi selon la forme que revêt la division sociale, ethnique et sexuelle du travail. En contrepoint, des pratiques et des formes de résistance apparaissent-elles ? Ici, une approche dynamique en termes de rapports sociaux (de sexe, de classe et de race, dans leur interrelation) serait particulièrement bienvenue, de même qu'une prise en considération des rapports différenciés au travail dans l'analyse des pratiques subversives ou des résistances face au travail salarié pour mener l'analyse de l'ensemble du processus.

3

Au regard de la thématique générale du congrès et de la problématique de notre Réseau, une autre série de questions peut être abordée. La première peut concerner la manière

dont ces phénomènes sont essentiellement traités par les intervenant-e-s comme relevant de la défense de la santé au travail (praticiens, médecins, organisations syndicales, inspecteurs, voire par le patronat et ses agences) et dans le débat public. Il s'agit de questionner la façon dont ces formes de violences sont « objectivées » et « segmentées » par les acteurs (harcèlement, stress, discrimination, etc.), dont l'usage de telle ou telle notion est légitimé ou d'interroger la façon dont ce parti-pris retentit sur la conscience des formes actuelles d'exploitation de la force de travail et sur les formes de résistance appropriées. La seconde traite plus spécifiquement du travail non salarié (domestique, d'autosubsistance...) et des rapports de domination, d'appropriation et d'exploitation qui lui sont attachés ainsi que des liens qui peuvent exister entre l'organisation de ce travail et celle du travail salarié.

Les communications pourront traiter de différents secteurs d'activité, d'autres mondes du travail que l'entreprise (associations ou encore les intermédiaires de l'emploi), d'emplois qualifiés et du travail domestique sur lequel nous avons beaucoup travaillé en 2006. Des analyses portant sur le « travail militant » seront également bienvenues. Les comparaisons internationales et approches transnationales sont également souhaitées.

2- Villes, violences et genre. Questionner l'invisibilité des violences de la ville
Atelier joint avec le RT « Sociologie de l'urbain et des territoires »

La ville, dans son organisation et ses dimensions sociales, spatiales et temporelles, produit des violences plus ou moins visibles. Les formes, l'intensité et la nature de ces violences varient selon le sexe des personnes visées, ainsi que selon leurs milieux sociaux et leurs origines ethniques. De nombreux travaux se sont intéressés aux violences les plus visibles impliquant surtout comme acteurs, plus que comme victimes, les jeunes hommes (criminalité, délinquance, émeutes, gangs, etc.). L'enquête ENVEFF1 a pourtant mis en évidence que les jeunes filles étaient plus particulièrement victimes de violences (allant des insultes aux agressions) dans les grandes villes, les violences perpétrées dans les lieux publics étant aussi les plus dénoncées. Nous proposons ici de renverser la perspective pour nous intéresser aux violences plus invisibles produites dans la ville en particulier sur les femmes. En effet, les usages et les temps de la ville sont fortement différenciés selon le genre et renvoient à des normes implicites ou à un contrôle social genré. Cet ensemble constitue des formes de coercition et de violences. Les comportements, les choix vestimentaires, les lieux, les moments, les types de mobilité et d'activité sont autant de dimensions à prendre en compte pour analyser ces différences selon le sexe. Comment s'articulent-elles aux dimensions sociales et ethniques ? Quelles données permettent de rendre compte des manières de pratiquer la ville, et qui conduisent à s'exposer à des violences spécifiques selon le genre ? Comment ces dynamiques rejaillissent-elles sur l'organisation et l'occupation de l'espace public ?

3- Sexe, « race », classe, violence et militarisation des sociétés.

La violence est souvent conçue de manière abstraite, ou à l'opposé envisagée de manière fragmentée et découpée en phénomènes distincts, comme par exemple : la violence « matérielle » et « économique » (privation d'accès aux ressources, à la terre, au travail, à

un 1 Les violences envers les femmes en France. Une enquête nationale., La Documentation Française, Paris , 2002. 4 lieu pour vivre, à la liberté de mouvement, au savoir...) ; les violences liées à la guerre, qu'elle soit « ouverte » ou « de basse intensité », intérieure ou internationale ; la violence sexuelle, physique et « symbolique » exercée en dehors du système de parenté, du viol jusqu'à l'assassinat (notamment les féminicides) en passant par les coups ; la violence domestique, en particulier contre les femmes et les enfants ; les violences racistes ; les violences de classe ; etc.

La mondialisation néolibérale conduit à l'approfondissement des processus d'exploitation basée sur l'imbrication des rapports sociaux de sexe, de « race » et de classe. Conjointement à un consensus idéologique et politique en sa faveur se développe un fort volet coercitif, pour l'imposer par la violence. On part ici de l'hypothèse que la mondialisation s'accompagne de la mise en place d'un état de « guerre larvée permanente » ou de guerre « anti-terroriste » à l'échelle internationale. Cet état de guerre d'un type partiellement nouveau a des répercussions sur la vie quotidienne des populations : ce processus de militarisation des sociétés est aussi un nouveau mode de contrôle et de gestion de la main-d'œuvre. Plus généralement, cela implique une ré-organisation-transformation des mécanismes imbriqués de la violence sur lesquels reposent (en partie) les rapports sociaux de pouvoir.

On voudrait ici faire apparaître les liens entre des violences souvent conçues comme différentes parce qu'elles s'exercent dans des sphères réputées disjointes (« privée » et « intime » versus « publique » et « politique »). On attend des communications qu'elles s'interrogent sur les transformations et l'éventuelle augmentation quantitative et/ou qualitative des mécanismes de contrainte qui accompagnent la mondialisation, analysés dans la perspective de l'imbrication des rapports sociaux de pouvoir (de sexe, de « race » et de classe), et des liens entre violence (patriarcale, raciste, de classe) exercée ou subie de manière « individuelle » et de manière « structurelle ». Les communications privilégieront la perspective de l'imbrication des rapports sociaux de sexe, de « race » et de classe et s'inscriront dans l'un des deux axes suivants : - la description et l'analyse de l'actuelle militarisation des sociétés ; - une réflexion plus théorique sur la violence et les mécanismes de contrainte.

B- Comment penser l'hétérogénéité du groupe des femmes ?

Cette session souhaite continuer et approfondir certaines des questions qui étaient ressorties des travaux menés par notre RT lors des deux précédents congrès. Nous avons été ainsi les témoins de l'émergence de problématiques mettant cette question au cœur de leur réflexion, notamment par le biais de l'externalisation du travail domestique, de la relation de service et du care, des luttes ou des résistances. On propose donc pour le troisième congrès de se saisir de cette problématique déjà ancienne pour la sociologie et l'épistémologie féministes, en l'appréhendant notamment au regard des recompositions des sociétés contemporaines. Le problème des contradictions, des inégalités ou des différenciations entre femmes -soit celui de l'hétérogénéité ou de la diversité interne aux catégories de sexe- n'est en effet pas nouveau.

Mais depuis 1970, le paysage théorique et les rapports de force se sont reconfigurés. La question des divisions de classe a notamment perdu de sa centralité, tandis que celles de la race ou de l'ethnicité d'une part, de l'hétéronormativité d'autre part semblent avoir gagné du terrain. Les débats se sont ainsi tendanciellement déplacés notamment sous l'influence accrue des théorisations féministes américaines ou des Suds qui ont mis l'accent sur l'hétérogénéité, les clivages, les oppositions, voire même la fragmentation, l'éclatement du groupe. Ainsi, le Black feminism, le féminisme postcolonial, le multiculturalisme ou encore les subaltern studies ont eu le souci de dénoncer l'ethnocentrisme des analyses féministes dominantes et ont montré que le groupe des femmes était racialement divisé. Tandis que le queer, le postféminisme ou encore « la troisième vague », en déconstruisant l'appréhension binaire du genre, ont annoncé la fin de la catégorie « femmes ».

Certains de ces travaux vont de pair avec le constat d'une fragmentation accrue et d'une difficile mise en place des solidarités. Au point que certains travaux posent la question de savoir si une lutte commune des femmes est encore possible, si l'usage du concept de « genre » et a fortiori celui de « classe de sexe » sont encore opératoires.

Par ailleurs, se posent des difficultés d'ordre théorique et méthodologique à rendre compte et du groupe des femmes, et de son hétérogénéité, dans un contexte de mondialisation galopante, de ségrégation urbaine, de mobilité géographique (inter) et (trans)nationale, de précarisation du marché du travail et d'internationalisation du « care ».

Compte tenu de ce contexte, des acquis des congrès précédents et de l'évolution des débats, nous proposons de discuter autour des questions suivantes :

- En quoi l'hétérogénéité du groupe des femmes interpelle-t-elle l'analyse féministe matérialiste et ses concepts clés (division sexuelle du travail, sexage, mode de production domestique, etc.) ?
- L'utilisation du concept de rapports sociaux de sexe permet-elle de faire l'économie de ce débat ?
- Comment s'est posée et se pose aujourd'hui l'analyse de la classe des femmes et de son hétérogénéité ? Comment les conceptualisations et les débats sur ce thème ont-ils évolué ?
- Qu'impliquent de tels questionnements pour l'analyse des recompositions actuelles mais aussi pour les stratégies de résistances ou de contournement, individuelles ou collectives, face à ces transformations ? Parmi ces stratégies, des formes d'organisation novatrices peuvent-elles être repérées ?

On attend des communications qu'elles explorent ces thématiques, soit à partir de situations concrètes (quant à l'hétérogénéité bien sûr, mais aussi à partir de situations de solidarité qui pourraient être analysées en termes de conscience de genre ou de classe de sexe), soit par des approches théoriques ou méthodologiques. Nous demandons d'être particulièrement attentif(ve) à ce que la communication proposée s'enracine réellement dans le questionnement proposé ci-dessus.

Modalités pratiques de soumission

Les propositions de communication seront soumises à :

Daniele.kergoat@wanadoo.fr
Emmanuelle.lada@wanadoo.fr

Merci d'indiquer clairement dans vos résumés : l'objet, la problématique et dans quel thème de l'appel à communication vous inscrivez ainsi que le matériel empirique mobilisé

Les propositions de communication comporteront les informations suivantes :

- Nom, prénom
- Fonction, institution
- Coordonnées complètes (adresse, téléphone, e-mail)
- Le titre de votre proposition

Lors de la sélection des communications - c'est-à-dire courant octobre 2008 - le bureau du RT 24 sera susceptible de vous demander des précisions sur tel ou tel point de votre proposition. Merci d'anticiper cette possibilité et de répondre au plus vite.

Conference Theme: Gender and Social Transformation: Global, Transnational and Local Realities and Perspectives, July 17-19, 2009 in Beijing, China.

Key Conference Organizers:

- Dr. Esther Ngan-ling Chow Professor, American University, USA.
- Dr. Tan Lin, Director, China Women's Studies Institute, All-China Women's Federation in P.R. China.

The goal of the conference is to provide an international forum in which to examine how women and gender relations are shaped by societal transformation economically, politically, socially and culturally in the global, transnational and local contexts and processes. The conference explores how dynamics process of globalization and transnationalism has impacted on women's lives, as it has challenged even altered gender relations on the ground. Using a kaleisopic gender lens, the meeting will examine how women and men in different locations around the world experience societal transformation and how they respond to and challenge transnational and global processes of changes. Intersectionality of race, ethnicity, class, gender, nationality and other dimensions will be emphasized in the conference program.

We will address the cutting-edge issues, pressing social problems and emergent phenomena that are critical to interrogate the existing theoretical paradigms to study globalization, transnationalism and the local from critical gender perspectives. In addition, we promote the development of theory, method, and practice by emphasizing how theory and research on women and gender can inform public debates, policy, and praxis, contribute to empirically grounded research, advance feminist scholarship, inspire collective action by empowering women as well as men, locally, transnationally and globally. To do so, the conference offers a medium through which scholars, researchers,

practitioners, policy-makers, civil society actors and grassroots activists can engage in meaningful dialogue for positive social change in various contexts. We welcome, particularly, innovative theoretical work as well as empirical research that have not published before.

Major Topics of Interest:

- Theorizing globalization and transnationalism and feminist critiques
- Work, economic transformation and global economy
- Gender Mainstreaming, development and policy
- Migration, citizenship, and politics of difference/recognition
- Political participation, civil society/engagement and gender justice
- Identity, media and cultural changes
- Education, health, environment and family transition
- Women's agency, activism, and social movements

Conference Format: Key speakers will include Judith Lorber, Myra Marx Ferree, Michael Kimmel, Peggy Levitt, Rhacel Parrenas, Christine E. Bose and other speakers from China and other countries. Two plenary sessions will feature gender issues in globalization and transnationalism and frontiers of feminist scholarship and methodology. Other papers sessions, panel discussion and one workshop on comparative and collaborative research will be organized.

Official Languages: Chinese and English

Funding Support: The conference is primarily funded by the China Women's Research Society and partial support from the American University.

Submission Deadline: If you are interested in this conference, submit your proposed paper abstract (250-500 words) by **February 15, 2009**. English paper abstract will be submitted to Esther N. Chow (echow@american.edu) and Chinese paper abstract to Wu Jing (wujing@wsic.ac.cn). Notification of paper acceptance will be around mid-March, 2009.

Registration Fees: Registration fees are paid in accordance with the membership scale specified by the International Sociological Association. US\$100 for Category A countries, US\$60 for Category B countries and US\$35 for Category C countries (www.isa-sociology.org/memb-i/index.htm).

There will be ten hotel accommodation awards given to women of color scholars/researchers from the Global South. There is absolutely no travel fund available.

Expected Outcomes: The conference outcomes will be conference Proceedings and two books based on selected conference papers—a Chinese one to be published in China and an English one to be published in the USA.



PLANNING FOR RC 32 PROGRAM IN 2010.

XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology
Gothenburg, Sweden
11 through 17 July, 2010

Dear RC 32 Members,

We have received the guidelines for program coordinators for the XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology in Gothenburg, Sweden from 11 through 17 July, 2010 and are sharing this with you. (See attachment) We are writing to solicit your proposals for themes/ topics/ sessions from the RC32 membership to be considered in finalizing the theme and call for papers for the 16 sessions that we have been allocated.

Your active involvement is important to the success of our program. We welcome your ideas/suggestions on possible themes/topics and encourage you to submit a proposal.

I. RC32 PROGRAM THEME AND CONTENT:

In planning for 2010 RC32 program theme and content, we want to ensure that our RC32 program incorporates the following:

- Addresses the chosen theme of the World Congress, “Sociology on the Move”
<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/>
- Contributes (but need not be limited) to the themes prioritized by ISA World Congress Program Committee
 1. Violence and War
 2. Sustainability
 3. Worlds of Difference
 4. Action and Imagination
 5. Religion and Power

(For details see: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/priorities.htm>)

- Promotes the mission and goals of RC 32 (<http://www.isa-sociology.org/rc32.htm>)
- Reflects the diverse membership and academic interests of RC32

II. NUMBER OF SESSIONS

Based on our membership we have been allocated 18 sessions (16 regular sessions + 2 additional sessions)

- 16 regular sessions
 - 1 of the 16 sessions will be dedicated to book publications of RC32 members
- 2 additional sessions
 - Additional session 1 will be used for the RC32 business meeting
 - Additional session 2 may be used for the RC32 dinner and award presentation to the winner of the essay competition for new scholars (details for the call and awards committee is to be finalized)

III. DIVERSIFICATION OF FORM OF RC 32 SESSIONS

To enhance the quality of our meeting and to encourage broader participation, the RC32 program will include a diverse form of sessions. We want to provide space in our program for a spectrum of forms of presentations (e.g. formal full papers, works in progress, student papers, round tables, joint sessions with other RCs, collaborative endeavours that may include presentations by local sociologists, activists, NGOs and policy makers). The final RC32 program will include a combination from some of the following types of sessions:

1. Regular sessions
2. Special session on the Specific Theme of the Congress
3. Featured or Keynote Speaker
4. Round Tables or “Author meets their Critics” Sessions
5. Panel Sessions
6. Joint Sessions
7. Other formats such as poster session/ hands-on workshop/ session on pedagogy (suggestions welcome)

IV. LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY:

Although English is the administrative language of the ISA, the Association does have three official languages, English, French and Spanish. ISA membership also includes colleagues who are more fluent in languages other than these three. The ISA encourages including papers and /or sessions in languages other than English in the program so that

all members can learn more about work being done within each field in languages other than English. RC 32 will try to think of creative ways to do this. (Details included in the attached Program coordinator guidelines and also on the ISA 2010 World Congress website).

V. RC-32 PROGRAM.

We welcome your input on a possible overall theme for RC32. Your suggestion should be accompanied by a note of approximately 200 words explaining why you think it would make for a good program theme. The final program theme and structure will be finalized by the program coordinators after taking into consideration all the suggestions and proposed sessions. MAbraham2010WC@hofstra.edu and Esther Ngan-ling Chow: echow@american.edu. (NOTE: Please use this new email address for Margaret Abraham for all 2010 related communication).

Your board input and active engagement is important for the success of the RC32 program. We and the RC32 board look forward to getting your input from the start in developing a strong and stimulating RC32 program for 2010.

In solidarity,

Margaret Abraham and Esther. N. Chow

	<p>INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DE SOCIOLOGIE ASOCIACION INTERNACIONAL DE SOCIOLOGIA</p> <p>ISA Secretariat, Faculty of Political Sciences and Sociology, University Complutense 28223 Madrid, Spain, Tel: 34-91-352-7650 Fax: 34-91-352-4945 E-mail: isa@isa-sociology.org http://www.isa-sociology.org</p>
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Guidelines for Programme Coordinators
XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology
Gothenburg, Sweden
11-17 July, 2010

The Programme Coordinator of each Research Committee (RC), Working Group (WG) and Thematic Group (TG) is responsible for organising a programme of high quality sessions. In cooperation with the Board members of his/her group s/he must define session themes (and, perhaps, an overall theme for the group s programme), and choose

competent session organisers who will ensure that the programme achieves the academic quality expected at a world congress. After the issuing of the call for papers, the Programme Coordinator and session organisers will then decide on acceptance of papers submitted by Congress participants.

The Programme Coordinator is expected to keep close track of the progress made by each session organiser and decide on the final structure of the programme. It is very important that session organisers and paper givers accepted in your group's programme respect Congress deadlines concerning pre-registration and submission of abstracts.

1. Schedule of the sessions

The sessions of RC, WG and TG will last 90 minutes and will be held at the following times:

July 13-16, 2010	10:30-12:00
July 12-17, 2010	14:30-16:00
	16:30-18:30
	18:30-20:00
July 12-16, 2010	20:30-22:00

Integrative Sessions (see below) will be held at 08:30-10:00 from July 13 to 17, 2010, Tuesday through Saturday
Congress time table of all sessions is available on
<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/timetable.htm>

2. Session allocation

The number of sessions will be allocated based on the number of the ISA members in good standing in the group (members in good standing are individual members who have paid both ISA and the RC, WG or TG membership due for the current year), according to the following scheme:

ISA membership	Number of	
	Regular Sessions	Additional Sessions*
<u>For Research Committees with</u>		
Over 100 members	16	2
85 -100 members	14	2
70-84 members	12	2
55 -69 members	10	2
40-54 members	8	2
25-39 members	6	2

* Additional Sessions can include Business meeting and a Dinner. Can, alternatively, be additional, regular sessions, one of which is allocated if RC is participating in an integrative session and one if the RC has a session on the Congress theme (see below for details).

For Working Groups: 6 sessions (including Business meeting)**

For Thematic Groups : 4 sessions **

** Requests to increase the number of WG sessions up to 10 and of TG sessions up to 5 will be considered, upon presentation of membership figures. Proposals to have multiple sessions that involve various configurations of the same presenters will not, however, be considered with much sympathy.

The total number of sessions allowed will be determined on April 15, 2009, on the basis of the number of ISA members in good standing that each RC, WG, TG has at that date. If, however, on January 31, 2010, just before the deadline for submitting the programme of sessions, a RC, WG or TG has a higher number of members in good standing, it will be granted the corresponding additional number of regular sessions, and if its membership dropped below its level on April 15, 2009, the number of sessions it is allocated will be decreased.

3. Diversification of the form of sessions

RCs, WGs, and TGs are encouraged to diversify the form of their sessions to enhance the format of their sessions. We suggest that you consider including a combination of the following types of session:

- Regular sessions

It is recommended that each RC, WG, TG regular session uses its 90 minutes to accommodate four 15-20 minute presentations (or five 15 minute ones) and 10-20 minutes of collective discussion. All other papers should be listed as distributed papers in the relevant session. These papers will be listed in the programme and, providing the authors pre-register in time (see below), their abstracts will be included in the abstracts book. If a participant does not show up, you will be able to ask the first participant listed under distributed papers to present his/her paper. Your participants have to be aware of this possibility.

Any individual may participate on up two sessions.

- Special session on the Specific Theme of the Congress

RCs organising a special session focussing on either the overall Congress theme or one of the main themes of the Plenary Sessions will be allocated one additional session.

- Featured or Keynote Speaker

This is a session featuring a leading researcher in one of the RC, WG or TG fields (with a presentation of between 35 and 60 minutes duration, followed by a discussion period). This kind of session can attract more people from outside your group.

- Round Tables or Author meets their Critics Sessions

A debate about a current issue of particular importance to the area of research, or around an important recent publication that could be presented by the author(s), with commentators and opening the floor to the audience

- Panel Sessions

Some RCs organise panel sessions, which can accommodate a larger number of papers around a specific theme.

- Joint Sessions

A session organised jointly by two or more RCs (or an RC combined with a WG, TG or National Association) on a theme of overlapping interest. (See also Integrative Sessions below).

If you decide to organise a joint session with another RC, WG, or TG or a national association, it must be included in the session allocation of one of the participating units.

- Other formats

Having a variety of types of sessions can enhance the quality of a meeting, especially if the organisers find the right people to participate in them. The above are simply suggestions. Other formats, such as a hands-on workshop, a session on pedagogy, two or more concurrent round-tables on more specialised themes, or a poster session, may also be appropriate for your group.

4. Linguistic Diversity

Although English is the administrative language of ISA, the Association does have three official languages, English, French and Spanish. ISA membership also includes colleagues who are more fluent in languages other than these three. All RC s, WG s and TG s are encouraged to include papers and /or sessions in languages other than English in their programmes, so that all members can learn more about work being done within each field in languages other than English.

In order to promote such exchanges, though, it is not enough to have a session in which presentations are in another language: the audience then tends to be made up simply of others who are fluent in the language used in the presentations, and they are probably already familiar with their colleagues' work. Given the high cost of simultaneous interpretation, we must find creative ways to promote understanding across language barriers. One possibility is to have a translation of the abstract, or of an outline of the presentation available (as overheads, Power Point or distributed hard copy). Another possibility is for the presenter to use a mixture of English and their preferred language. A third is for another member of the RC to provide an oral sequential informal interpretation/summary. A fourth (which could also be useful if some members of the

audience need help during an English presentation) is to have a whispered interpretation/ summary provided by another RC member. A fifth is to have a volunteer typing on a computer a summary of the remarks as they are made, with the content being displayed on a screen, as is done during a Power Point presentation. Most likely, there are other strategies as well. Implementing the strategies requires advanced planning, including the recruiting of qualified volunteers. It is equally important that the possibility of using such strategies also be widely known in advance, for the information of both potential paper presenters and also members of the audience.

5. Integrative Sessions

We will be extending the successful format of Integrative Sessions introduced in Brisbane (2002) and developed further in Durban (2006). Integrative Sessions will connect at least three Research Committees, at least 3 National Associations, or a combination involving at least three RCs and NAs around a debate on a common theme. A sub-committee formed by two representatives from the Research Coordinating Committee, two representatives of the National Associations Liaison Committee, the Vice President for Research and the Vice President for National Associations, in consultation with the Vice President for Programme will select a maximum of the twelve (twice as many as in Durban) best proposals for integrative sessions.

The deadline for submitting proposals is September 15, 2009. Proposals must be submitted to the ISA Secretariat (isa@isa-sociology.org), with copies to Vice-President for Research, Arturo Rodriguez Morato (rodriguez.morato@ub.edu) and Vice-President for National Associations, Michael Burawoy (burawoy@berkeley.edu). The decisions will taken by the beginning of December 2009.

Proposals are invited from combinations of RCs, WGs, TGs and National Associations. At least three units must participate - these can all be RCs (WGs and/or TGs), National Associations, or a combination of the two. The proposal should indicate the name of each of the participating units, the name and e-mail of the contact person from each unit, the name and e-mail of the person who is coordinating the proposal (normally one of the contact people). It should also provide, in 300 words, maximum, a description of: a) the problematic which will be addressed; b) how the participating units will contribute to an integrative reflection about the topic, and c) (if already known), the names of the proposed speakers and their themes.

Each Research Committee participating in an Integrative Sessions is allocated one additional session.

6. Deadlines

- January 15, 2009

Session topics, session short description, names and e-mails of session organizers should be received from the Programme Coordinators at the ISA Secretariat in Madrid isa@isa-sociology.org for publication on the ISA web site.

These will become a Call for Papers. Please indicate also your RC-WG-TG deadline for receiving paper proposals by session organisers and/or Programme Coordinator.

- September 15, 2009

Proposals for Integrative Sessions which involve at least 3 Research Committees, 3 National Associations or a combination of the two, should be received at the ISA Secretariat in Madrid isa@isa-sociology.org

- January 31, 2010

Programme Coordinators to submit the details of the sessions programmes (authors' name, affiliation, e-mail, and paper title).

- May 1, 2010

Pre-registration deadline for all programme participants (presenters, chairs, discussants, etc.). Otherwise their names will not appear in the Programme Book and abstracts of their papers will not be published.

- May 1, 2010

Deadline for on-line submission of abstracts of accepted papers to the Cambridge Sociological Abstracts web site. Abstracts are only accepted by the system from those who are already registered for the Congress.

- June 1, 2010

Deadline for submitting last minute changes of sessions programmes.



BOSTON, 2008.
RC-32/ASA SESSION



BARCELONA, 2008

