Notes from the Editor
It seems that everyday events, reaching around the world, serve as continual reminders of the importance of our research. The use of power and the control of force have repeatedly shown us how women are used as pawns in games as cynical as war strategies or as objects when powerful men decide on indulging what they think is their given privilege. This newsletter concentrates on presenting our upcoming meetings where many of these issues will be discussed.

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Antoinette Hetzler, Editor
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Warmest greetings to RC 32 members,
At the end of our winter semester in North America and in preparation for the upcoming conference season I want to extend warmest greetings to everyone, first of all. This has been a difficult winter / spring in the aftermath of a catastrophic earthquake, tsunami and grave nuclear accident in Japan, economic crisis in the EU, environmental changes globally and major and still unfolding political upheaval in the Middle East. Local communities are severely affected by these global happenings which have all kinds of adverse consequences for women’s lives, safety and well-being. As social scientists, critical thinkers, feminists and activists, we, individually and collectively, pause to analyze, reflect, but also speak up and take action for social justice and human rights. The Research Committee on Women in Society (RC 32) of the International Sociological Association (WISISA) emphasizes the importance of gender and women’s experiences in their intersectionality with class, ethnicity, race, sexuality, age and other forms of social division, as a key entry point in understanding the global issues of our times. Understanding, in turn, is the point of departure for action in addressing global inequalities, social injustice and human suffering. In this brief address I want to inform you about current and upcoming RC 32 opportunities for getting together, analyzing and reflecting collectively on such global issues, as well as invite you to join us in some of these meetings:

1. In collaboration with the Working Group N°11, “Gender, inequality and citizenship”, of the Latin American Sociological Association (ALAS), and with the Working Group “Gender” of the Argentinian Sociological Association (AAS), RC 32 has proposed and will be holding a panel on “Dimensions of gender equity in Latin America and the Caribbean” at the upcoming XXVIII Congress of the Latin American Sociological Association in Recife, Brazil, 6-10 September 2011. The title of the Congress is “Latin American Open Borders” www.alas2011recife.com. The coordinator is RC 32 Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean Alicia Itatí Palermo, from the National University of Luján (Argentina) and the Argentinian Sociological Association. For more information on the panel, please check our own
website http://www.isa-sociology.org/rc32.htm under “upcoming events”.

2. In the context of the Women’s Worlds 2011 Global Feminist Conference, entitled “Inclusions, Exclusions, Seclusions: Living in a Globalized World”, to be held in Ottawa, Canada, 3-7 July 2011, a number of RC 32 members have proposed workshops and panel presentations which we are bringing together into a vibrant RC 32 interim conference meeting. This newsletter includes a preliminary RC 32 – affiliated session program. For further information about this event, please check the conference website http://www.womensworlds.ca/. We have reserved a table at the conference space and for the duration of the conference, shared with a well-known Canadian NGO, the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW). Plans are underway for the best use of this space in order to increase RC 32 visibility and suggestions by members are invited.

3. RC 32 will be holding its major Interim Meeting in the context of the 2012 ISA Forum, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1-4 August, 2012 (http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/). Reflecting the ISA 2012 Forum’s main theme on “Social Justice and Democratization”, Research Committee 32 (“Women in Society”) will highlight the role, experiences and agency of women and women’s movements in the processes and struggles for social justice and democratization. The focus of our Interim Conference will be “Women, Social Justice and Democratization”. A call for session proposals has circulated since March 1 by e-mail and through our website (http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/rc/rc.php?n=RC32). The Board and I anticipate having a list of sessions in place by late May – early June. RC 32 will be organizing 18 sessions (including a business meeting). A number of these sessions will be joint, on topics of mutual interest, with other Research Committees, Working Groups and Thematic Groups, as per RC 32 and ISA tradition and practices. We expect to have sessions in English, Spanish, as well as bilingual. However, we will not be in a position financially to provide simultaneous translation and, therefore, we will ask for and try to organize volunteer interpreters from among our bilingual members. Although our deadline is still running as I am writing this letter, I have already seen a number of inspiring topics proposed. We are very excited to be working together with our Latin American colleagues on a theme of great interest and relevance to the region and to all of us. We are also very fortunate to have the active support of our Latin American Regional Representatives in mobilizing potential participants and organizing the logistics of our meeting. I will be keeping you apprised of developments on the Forum, as I receive information from Margaret Abraham, ISA Vice-President for Research.

4. RC 32 applied and is grateful to have just received a small grant from ISA in support of conference activities for the next four years.

I would like to thank our Executive Board and Regional Representatives for their trust in me, dedication and support of our work. I look forward to continuing to work closely with them and all of our members toward the success of our upcoming meetings.

Best wishes,

Evie Tastsoglou

Call for Papers:

**Uruguay**

**Alicia Dambrauskas**

*March: gender on the move*

In Uruguay, March 2011 has been a month full of activities related to gender topics because, as in previous years, it was appointed as "The Women’s Month”. Under the slogan "The rights must become facts ", not only have we developed meetings, debates, workshops, roundtables, cultural activities but
also have presented many publications as accountabilities. Among them we want to underline one sponsored by CLADEM (Latin America and The Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women’s Rights) where the book “Uruguayan women’s rights in a feminist key” was presented.

CLADEM is also developing a Virtual Forum from May 26th to 28th, for exchange on non-sexist and anti-discrimination education. To those colleagues who want to participate, the link opened with that purpose is www.educación-nosexista.org

May: IV International Symposium on Men and Masculinity Studies

The Uruguayan University of the Republic (UdelaR), through the Faculty of Social Sciences (FCS) and School of Psychology is organizing this event that was held on 19th, 20th and 21st May 2011, in Montevideo, Uruguay. The Symposium addressed the complex processes that determine the building of public and political agendas, power relations, spaces and alternative dispute from these areas. The aim was to promote cultural changes that enable reflexivity about masculinities and relations between genders, building a more equitable and inclusive society. It was attended by renowned experts and international researchers, as well as university students, teachers, professionals, researchers and academic and social institutions of the host country and abroad. For more information, http://www.coloquiomasculinidades.org

July: 1rst. Uruguayan Congress of Sociology

This Congress, called “Rethinking the challenges to social integration” will take place from 6th to 8th July, in Montevideo. The working thematic group of gender is Nº 3 and it will have the coordination of Dra. Karina Batthyany.

As it’s the first meeting of this nature in Uruguay, priority was given to the promotion of national debate. As a consequence, to take part in it, it’s necessary to be an Uruguayan sociologist but not to live in the country. So, those colleagues who belonging to the Uruguayan diaspora aiming to participate in this important national academic event, can obtain additional information through the official web site http://www.sociologia.com.uy

Alicia Dambrauskas
Montevideo, URUGUAY
No. 1
Title: Women Rights and Cultural Rights: Feminist/Women’s Theorizing and Organizing
1. Organizers: Angela Miles
2. Affiliation: University of Toronto

No. 2
Title: Time Binds, Work-Family Imbalance, and Reduced Well-Being: The Experience of Women Faculty
Organizer: Catherine White Berheide
Affiliation: Professor of Sociology, Skidmore College
Format: Individual Paper (1 presenter)

No. 3
Title: Activist Research and Gender Justice Author of Violence Against Latina Immigrants
Organizer: Roberta Villalón, Ph. D.
Affiliation: Assistant Professor, Sociology and Anthropology Department, St. John's University

No. 4
Title: Feminism, Migration and Transnational Practices
Organizer: Glenda Tibe Bonifacio, PhD
Affiliations: University of Lethbridge Participants: Rachel Gorman, PhD (University of Toronto), Rashida Keshavjee, PhD (Mount Royal University), Oana Petrica, PhD candidate (York University)

No. 5
Title: Gendering Excellence in Academia, Gender Studies, Science and Technology: Critical Reflections and Critical Actions
Organizers: Liisa Husu
Affiliations: Guest professor, Örebro University, Centre for Feminist Social Studies – Linköping University, Tema Genus, Sweden
Panel description: This Panel seeks to break ceilings/barriers, with four papers drawing on pioneering work of: a) genSET, EU project on gender equality in science and technology institutions/leadership; b) GEXcel, joint university centre of gender excellence in Linköping and Örebro, Sweden; c) EDDA, Icelandic Centre of Excellence (Equality, Diversity); and d) Routledge Advances in Feminist Studies and Intersectionality book series.
Participants: Liisa Husu, Örebro University, Centre for Feminist Social Studies, Sweden, and Linköping University, Tema Genus, Sweden

www.womensworlds.ca
Site: University of Ottawa

No. 6
Title: Gender, State Reforms, and Neoliberal Transitions: The Case of Muslim Women
Organizer: Zakia Salime
Affiliation: Assistant Professor, Sociology & Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Panel Description: Gender has been central to neoliberal transitions in the Middle East and beyond. This stems from the importance of the discourse of women’s rights to the ‘democratization/liberalization process, and to questions of access to economic resources and political power. The post 9-11 realities of growing scales of occupation, war, displacement and mandated ‘democratization’, brought many levels of complexities to the discourse and politics of women’s rights in Muslim majority countries, and even in places where Muslim women have been a minority. In this panel we recognize the multiple ways in which women’s realities have been framed within classic binaries of victimization/rescue and modernity/tradition,
with Islam represented as the driving force. We also recognize the ways in which the women’s themselves have shaped these realities through personal agency, as well as through collective mobilization to shape policies, targeting them and negotiate the social constraints related to patriarchy, state laws and foreign interventions and agenda. The panel brings together scholars and activists working within the vast region stretching from East Africa to the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

No. 7
Title: Meeting the Needs of Immigrant Women: Breaking Cycles
Organizer: Vappu Tyyskä, PhD
Affiliation: Professor, Department of Sociology, Director, MA Program in Immigration and Settlement Studies, Ryerson University

No. 8
Title: The Improper Use of Women’s Body in Commercials
Organizer: Laura Corradi
Format: Individual Paper

No. 9
Title: Re-focusing the Gender and Migration Lens
Organizer: Margaret Abraham
Affiliation(s): Professor of Sociology & Special Advisor to the Provost for Diversity Initiatives, Hofstra University, ISA Vice-President
Format: Panel (4 presenters): Margaret Abraham (Hofstra University), Evangelia Tastsoglou (Saint Mary’s University, Canada), Maria Kontos (Institute for Social Research, Goethe University of Frankfurt), Glenda Bonifacio (University of Lethbridge, Canada).
Description: This proposed panel includes four papers that discuss some ways to (re)frame and expand the definitions of gender and migration in a globalized world. Through case studies that address cyber migrant labour, transnational care or care provided across borders, temporary migrant domestic workers, and various social and cultural border transgressions, this panel emphasizes the importance of developing conceptual frameworks centering on women’s life experiences and border crossing trajectories not conventionally thought of as migratory or related to migration. Via the presentations the panelists aim at developing theoretical connections among the four papers. The panelists will also actively engage the audience in a discussion on the possibilities and assessment of the advantages (and disadvantages) for (re)framing and expanding our understanding of migration in a globalized world.

No. 10
Title: Immigrant Women in Atlantic Canada: Challenges, Negotiations and Re-constructions
Organizer: Evangelia Tastsoglou
Affiliation: Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology and Criminology, Saint Mary's University / RC 32, ISA
Format: Panel
Number of presenters: 4 Format: Mythili Rajiva, Saint Mary’s University; Jaya Peruvemba, University of Ottawa; Jane Ku, University of Windsor; Swarna Weerasinghe, Dalhousie University.
Description: The proposed panel focuses on immigrant women’s experiences with barriers in Atlantic Canada and on how they express their agency through acts of resistance, negotiations and reconstructions in the private-public continuum. While the context is local, all four panelists contextualize immigrant women’s experiences with barriers in employment, social services, education, healthcare access, and family, into global and transnational contexts. The panelists will be familiar with each other’s work in advance and actively engage in a dialogue among themselves as well as with the audience about commonalities and differences between immigrant women’s experiences in Atlantic Canada and elsewhere.

No. 11
Title: International Feminists for a Gift Economy (2 panels)
Genevieve Vaughan (Italy) Organizer and presenter
Angela Miles (Canada)
Barbara Mann (Indigenous, USA)
Bernadette Muthien (South Africa)
Erella Shadmi (Israel)
Kaarina Kailo (Finland)
Linda Christiansen-Ruffman (Canada)
PW Chang (Korea)

We propose a paradigm shift towards a free maternal economy, based on gift giving. In fact women's free labor in the home is a mode of distribution of goods to needs which has been eliminated from the conception of economy as the realm of homo economicus. A number of initiatives are being taken at the present which move towards gift giving: internet gift practices, from open software to Wikipedia to Peer to Peer groups; alternative communities with income sharing, couch surfing, hitchhiking and ride sharing, Really really Free Markets, Free Cycling, Yellow Bikes, organ transplantation.
tion, free blood banks and mother’s milk banks. However except for the last mentioned, none of these recognizes its origin in the free care work of women, particularly mothers.

The logic of exchange, giving in order to receive an equivalent is a distortion of an original transitive gift logic that is unrecognized - giving in order to satisfy a need. This transitive logic is practiced by (mostly) women in mothering, and children therefore begin life in this maternal economy and develop language and gender within it. Indigenous matriarchies, which practice gift giving, are a development of this maternal economy, while the market, based on exchange of private property for money and the development of capital, incorporates patriarchal values of competition and domination, infusing them into all levels of daily life. Capitalism requires a break with the maternal economy, creating a psycho social contradiction which allows a few to dominate, while taking the gifts of the many, as well as the gifts of Earth.

We challenge feminists to envision a different economy along with a different paradigm of social relations, based on the satisfaction of needs and on maternal values of care. We also use the logic of the gift as the basis for a critique of Western Patriarchal Capitalist society as it now exists.

No. 12
Title: The Patriarchal Nuclear Family – Critiques and Alternatives from Societies of Peace (Matriarchal Societies)
Mariam I. Tazi-Preve (Main Organiser).
Summary: This panel compares patriarchal, western and matriarchal, non-western family systems. Its aim is to share new feminist insights (from the perspectives of modern matriarchal studies), to raise awareness of the nuclear family as a patriarchal project and to discuss ways of breaking patriarchal cycles. The aim is to raise awareness about alternative ways of living and to discuss alternatives ways of breaking the cycles of Domination and Oppression.

Presenters
Linda Christiansen-Ruffman (Canada): This presentation is based on historical processes and patriarchal scholarship that created the so-called modern (patriarchal) nuclear family. It focuses on these results of the processes by which successively new patriarchal structures and their proponents appropriated women's labour, narrowed women's roles and domesticated women.

Mariam I. Tazi-Preve (Austria): “The origin of violence. Or: The perpetuation of gender roles within family”. Within the nuclear family matricidal masculinity as well as mother-spurning femininity are produced again and again (European context) and lay therein the source of an inequitable and violent society.

Malika Grasshoff (Algeria/Bremen/ France): “Mother as the centre of the family by the Kabyle Berber of North Africa” Traditionally, in the Berber society, family is understood as a vertical line from the old mothers to the offspring. The Kabyle mother represents the link between old mothers and children.

Valentina Pakyntein (India): This part is devoted to the understanding of family “Ing” among the Matri-lineal Pnar, one of the indigenous groups in the farflung North-Eastern part of India. The Pnar who followed the old age traditions resides “matrilocally” even after Marriage; and this applies to both men and women.

ALERT!!! LOOK FOR THE RC32 TABLE AT THE CONFERENCE. IT MAKES FOR A GREAT MEETING PLACE.
Research Committee on Women in Society, RC32
Main theme
Women, social justice and democratization

Programme coordinator
Evangelia TASTSOGLOU, Saint Mary’s University, Canada, evie.tastsoglou@smu.ca

Deadlines
* On-line abstract submission will be open from August 25 to December 15, 2011.

Call for Session Proposals has closed. The list of sessions for RC 32 will be distributed in June 2011.

Reflecting the ISA 2012 Forum’s main theme on Social Justice and Democratization, RC32 will highlight the role, experiences and agency of women and women's movements in the processes and struggles for social justice and democratization. The focus of our Interim Conference will be Women, Social Justice and Democratization.

A broad range of session themes covering RC32 members’ interests and making a connection to the conference theme are being solicited. Of particular interest are themes that are relevant to Latin America and Argentina. We extend a special invitation to our bilingual colleagues and those with interests in Latin America.

Based upon mutual interest, some of the RC32 sessions will also include joint sessions with other Research Committees, Working Groups and Thematic Groups. In order to encourage member involvement and collaboration across regions, as per RC32 tradition, we encourage co-organization of sessions as much as possible.

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**Book Series and New Books! Keep an Eye Out For...**

**Routledge Series:**

**Routledge Advances in Feminist Studies and Intersectionality.**

Four books in the series were published in 2010 and five more are in the pipeline for publication in 2011. We hope to start publishing a review of new books starting with our next Newsletter. For this number we can mention the books that have and will be released in the Routledge Series and especially point out that the latest book published in the series, *The Limits of Gendered Citizenship*, edited by Elżbieta H. Oleksy, Jeff Hearn and Dorota Golanska is dedicated to the *Women of ISA RC 32!*

The books in the series are as follows:

- *Women, Civil Society and the Geopolitics of Democratization.* by Denise M. Horn
- *Feminist Studies - A Guide to Intersectional Theory, Methodology and Writing* by Nina Lykke
- *Sexuality, Gender and Power - Intersectional and Transnational Perspectives* edited by Anna G. Jónasdóttir, Valerie Bryson, Kathleen B. Jones
- *Theories and Methodologies in Postgraduat Feminist Research - Researching Differently* edited by Rose-marie Buikema, Gabriele Griffin, Nina Lykke
- *Making Gender, Making War Violence, Military and Peacekeeping Practices* edited by Annica Kronsell, Erika Svedberg (To be published August 2011)
- *Emergent Writing Methodologies in Feminist Studies* edited by Mona Livholts (To be published October 2011)
- *Heterosexuality in Theory and Practice* by Chris Beasley, Heather Brook, Mary Holmes (To be published October 2011)
- *Gender and Sexuality in Online Game Cultures - Passionate Play* by Jenny Sundén, Malin Sveningsson (To be published November 2011)
...More Books to Eye...

Books are expensive! Jeff Hearn, member of RC 32 and a managing co-editor behind the Routledge Series also suggested a discount for RC 32 members for those interested in purchasing the book.

Happy to report RC 32 received the news from the in house editor at Routledge. New York, Max Novick, that we will be receiving a 20 percent discount on purchases of books in the series. We will be using a promotional code. the code is RAF11. Members of RC 32 can use the code when ordering the book from the Routledge website. Max points out that given the high price of the books, it would be good (as not everyone might be willing or able to buy the volumes for themselves) if we encourage our university libraries to order copies.

Thanks Jeff, Evie and Max.

You can get more information about the individual books in the series at the following web site.
http://www.taylorandfrancis.com/books/series/routledge_advances_in_feminist_studies_and_intersectionality_RAIFSAI/

"The Second Shift"
There are lots of us that immediate think of the work of Arlie Hochschild as soon as we hear the word "second shift." We also might have been using concepts such as "the time bind," "emotion work," "gender strategies" or "the economy of gratitude" and conscious that we are building a conceptual framework for understanding the daily life of women's work and family relationships using Hochschild's insights. It could even by that Hochschild's work is speaking to a particular type of family, or to a particular culture.

A recently published book by Rutgers University Press, At the Heart of Work and Family, edited by Ania Lita Garey and Karen V. Hansen puts together original research of a number of scholars who have used the framework introduced by Arlie Hochschild. The book came out in March 2011. You can find out more about the book at http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/acatalog/at_the_heart_of_work_and_family.html
Evie Tastsoglou has a new book in print on *Immigrant Women in Atlantic Canada: Challenges, Negotiations and Re-constructions* (Canadian Scholars’ Press / Women’s Press, 2011), co-edited with Peruvemba Jaya (from the University of Ottawa). For this book she wrote the introductory chapter on “Women, Gender, and Immigration: Focusing on Atlantic Canada.”

More information about this book can be found at http://www.cspi.org/books/immigrant_women_atlantic_canada
Call for Papers  Not Much Time - Deadline is already the 1st of June, but if you have an interesting paper you think would be just right for the next volume, please send it to the editors whose names are given below.

Advances in Gender Research Volume 16

A peer-reviewed volume of selected papers in English based on the international conference "Gender and Social Transformation: Global, Transnational, and Local Realities and Perspectives," held July 17-19, 2009 in Beijing, China is now in press as Volume 15 in the Advances in Gender Research series published by Emerald in the UK. We plan a second volume including some papers originally submitted for the conference and are now soliciting additional original work to round out the volume.

The proposed volume will focus on the interface between the public and private spheres of life. Within both spheres we are especially interested in gender, work and family, and social production and reproduction including, but not limited to, the impact of the global economic crisis on individuals, families, communities, states, and world regions. We recognize that the global affects the local and vice-versa. Thus, we encourage submission of papers that are comparative as well as those that are locality-specific. Papers that emphasize social action or make policy recommendations that impact the public or private spheres are especially welcome.

Volume 16 will be published in 2012. Series editors are Marcia Texler Segal and Vasilikie Demos. Esther Ngan-ling Chow will join them in the editing of this volume.

Interested authors should follow closely the guidelines provided below:

1. The paper should be submitted using the APA reference style.

2. The article must be based on original work and should not have been published elsewhere.

3. Length should not exceed 8,000 words including tables, graphs, diagrams, and references and be double spaced in Times New Roman, font size 12.

4. Expressions of interest in the form of a draft or extended abstract should be sent to all three editors via e-mail as soon as possible.

Completed papers must reach them via e-mail by June 1, 2011. Notification of the final decision regarding papers to be included will be made after all review processes have been completed.

5. Each article should include an abstract of no more than 250 words set out under 4-6 sub-headings: Purpose, Methodology/approach, Findings, Research limitations/implications, Practical implications, Social implications, Originality/value of paper.

6. Each abstract should be followed by up to six key words.

7. Include a cover page containing the following information:

Title of paper
Name of author(s)
Academic departments or disciplines of author(s) Institutional affiliation of author(s) Job position of Author(s) Mailing address(es) Email address(es) Telephone number(s)

8. All inquiries, expressions of interest and papers should be sent by email to all three editors, Marcia Texler Segal msegal@ius.edu, Vasilikie Demos demosvp@morris.umn.edu, and Esther Ngan-ling Chow echow@american.edu.
Ottilia was an associate professor in the Faculty of Education, St. Francis Xavier University, but her research focused on immigration, citizenship and democracy.

She passed away March 16, 2011 at a hospital in Antigonish, Canada, a victim of domestic violence. She is survived by her five daughters ages 3 to 23. Her husband is being tried for murder. A trust fund has been created by the St. Francis Xavier University for her children. Information regarding contributions to the trust fund are given below.

Ottilia was born in Bikita, Province of Masvingo, Zimbabwe on May 2, 1968 where she attended public school, was a star netball player, and initially set out to pursue a career in agriculture. Thanks to an inspirational teacher, Ottilia veered from this path and pursued a career in education, graduating from Gweru Teacher’s College in her early 20’s. After graduation she moved to Canada and pursued a Diploma in Advanced Undergraduate Studies (Social Studies), a Master of Education, and eventually a PhD, all at the University of New Brunswick. Her doctoral studies focused on the role of democratic participation of recent African immigrants in Canada. This was the beginning of a passionate journey exploring citizenship, democracy, inclusion, and social justice. These were the foundations of both her teaching and her scholarly research, which was recognized nationally and internationally through her many publications. She joined the Faculty of Education at St. Francis Xavier University in 2005, and quickly became known for her exuberance, her passion, and her ability to inspire students and everyone she met. She was a sought-after speaker, giving inspirational addresses throughout Atlantic Canada. Many students credit Ottilia with igniting their passions for social justice and transformation, and inspiring them to pursue their research interests. She was beloved by her students and colleagues alike. Ottilia was active in the University community, generously serving on such committees as the University Senate, Committee for Aboriginal and Black Student Success, and Academic Priorities and Planning Committee. Most recently she was nominated to the Research Advisory Board of St FX. She was a driving force in the implementation of the new Bachelor of Education program for African Nova Scotians and played a significant role in the inception and advancement of the Mi’kmaw Kina’matnewey School Success initiative. Beyond this, she was active in the community, as a member of the Grace Community Church and the St Andrew Junior School Advisory Council, and maintained a leadership role within the African Diaspora Association of the Maritimes. She kept close connections with her family in Zimbabwe. She supported many educational endeavors, provided financial support for several nieces and nephews, and motivated her younger sisters to pursue an education. In her own words: "My main hope was to inspire my sisters and all other women in the community I come from."

Our Colleague, Ottilia Chareka (1968-2011)

A Memorial Fund for the Children of Ottilia Chareka has been established at the Bergengren Credit Union in Antigonish, account number 50623-112 and transit number 80143-839. For cheque writing purposes, this can be shortened to Children of Ottilia Chareka or Memorial Fund for Ottilia Chareka.

The Bergengren Credit Union can process donations as long as Ottilia’s name is in the title. Cheques can be sent to:

Faculty of Education, St. Francis Xavier University, PO Box 5000, Antigonish, NS B2G 2W5
• The objectives and the priorities for the Forum are posted at the website set-up by ISA Secretariat [http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/](http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/)

• The invitation to all RC/WG/TG was sent and we have received a very positive response with 54 groups having confirmed their participation! As soon as a RC/WG/TG confirmed its participation it was posted on the Forum website.

• The Forum schedule was developed with the goal to meet the RCs’ request of flexibility and uninterrupted time. It includes also time-slots for Plenary/Thematic Sessions, two Open Forum sessions, as well as a Roundtable session for junior sociologists to meet with senior sociologists.

• Initial Guidelines for Programme Coordinators have been sent.

• Izabela Barlinska and I conducted an on-site visit, met with main organizers, Alicia Palermo, President of the Argentinean Sociological Association, and Alberto Bialakowski, President of the Latin-American Sociological Association, as well as with the Deans of the Faculty of Law and of Social Sciences.

• All our sessions will take place at the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires.

• The two Business Meeting sessions of the Research Council, one preceding the Forum and the second one on the very last day, will be held at the Faculty of Social Sciences.

• Both University venues are offered free.

• Each RC/WG/TG will be assigned a local representative (sociologist) who can assist (if needed) on potential Latin-American speakers for the specific RC sessions as well as practical support. Alicia Palermo and Alberto Bialakowski, Co-chairs of the Local organizing committee are working on developing this list.

There is still a lot of preparation to be done but we are committed to all working collabora-
NEWS Tidbits

Are Times Changing? Working women who demonstrate stereotypical male behaviours should try to be mindful of their conduct or they are likely to face setbacks because they don't fit the female stereotype. This is the findings of research by Olivia O'Neill from George Mason University and Charles O'Reilly from Stanford University published online on 19 January, in the Journal of Occupational Psychology by BPS Journals in partnership with Wiley-Blackwell.

Cutbacks and funding for groups promoting equality. Buried in a Department for Business document published a few days before Christmas was the news that the UK Resource Centre for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology would lose all its government funding. "It was a devastating blow," Annette Williams, founding director of the centre, said. "One interpretation is that equality organisations are seen as a boom-time nice-to-have. In times of reduced funding, it is equality activities that suffer." (The Guardian)

Women Drivers!

"When Najla's driver unexpectedly turned in the keys and resigned, the 45-year-old Saudi housewife was left with a dilemma: Her son had to get to school, there were errands to be done, and there was nobody around to drive her. So she got behind the wheel of the family car and took her son to school.

Did the world come to an end? Did society erupt in disapproval? Was she wrenched from the vehicle by a religious cop and sent back to her guardian for a lecture on morals?

No. In fact, with the exception of some looks of surprise, and a few thumb's up of approval, Najla managed to get her son to school and pick up groceries on the way home, just as countless women do the world over. It was, in the end, a banal experience.

"It is an unwanted feeling to be restrained and helpless," she told Arab News by phone. "I have three driver's licenses: two from Arab countries and an international one."

She says she would like to see the day she could get a fourth driver's license: one from her own country. She points out that the ban on women driving isn't a law on the books. (Arab News.com)

Calendar

June 1, 2011 Deadline Call for Papers
July 3-7, 2011 Women's Worlds 2011 Global Feminist Conference, Ottawa
July 6-8, 2011 Uruguayan Congress of Sociology, Montevideo
August 1-4, 2012 ISA Forum, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Contributors to this Issue were:

Maggie Abraham
Alicia Dambrauskas
Jeff Hearn
Antoinette Hetzler
Justin Lini
Evie Tastsoglou

The Next Newsletter will be available in November 2011.

Keep In Touch

June 1, 2011 Deadline Call for Papers
July 3-7, 2011 Women's Worlds 2011 Global Feminist Conference, Ottawa
July 6-8, 2011 Uruguayan Congress of Sociology, Montevideo
August 1-4, 2012 ISA Forum, Buenos Aires, Argentina

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The Next Newsletter will be available in November 2011.

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