International Sociological Association

Research Committee for Women in Society (RC32)

Newsletter # 2
September 2015
Warm Greetings to all of our RC32 Members and Friends:

Believe it or not, we have completed our first year as co-Presidents and we appreciate all of the support we received from you during our transition period, especially Evie, Maggie, and Bandana.

At this point, we are preparing to receive abstracts for panel sessions for the ISA Forum in Vienna next year. We were pleased to receive submissions for over 50 sessions for the forum but could only accommodate less than half of those given the strict guidelines set by the ISA Secretariat. The good news is that we should have the following sessions for the ISA Forum in Vienna: 12 panel sessions, 11 joint sessions, 2 roundtable sessions, 1 Author Meets Critics session, and 1 Business Meeting. Thank you all for the hard work you put into planning and submitting sessions for the conference. This will give us a diverse and intellectually stimulating selection of panel sessions for the Forum.

For the first time in Vienna, ISA will introduce the “Common Sessions” which is an opportunity for RCs/TFs/ and WGs to come together and dialogue on the theme of the Forum. Each RC has been invited to participate in this plenary session through a nominated representative. We are pleased to inform you that Dr. Rhoda Reddock, who is a Professor and Deputy Principal of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine in Trinidad and Tobago will be representing RC32 at the Common Sessions. Rhoda is a leading scholar on gender and development and transnational feminist issues in the global South. She is a long standing and active member of RC32 and a former President of RC32. For those of you who have not yet met Rhoda, please refer to the attached link http://sta.uwi.edu/pelican/60under60/rreddock.asp


We look forward to her presentation and encourage all RC32 members attending the Forum in Vienna to attend the “Commons” Plenary Session. Papers from the “Commons” Plenary session will be later published in one of the ISA journals.
Since the last newsletter, we’ve been busy preparing for the ISA Forum in Vienna which will take place from July 10\textsuperscript{th}-14\textsuperscript{th}, 2016. We urge you to submit your panel proposals as soon as possible as we have just under two weeks left to meet the 30\textsuperscript{th} September deadline. The earlier the better as this will avoid any unforeseen problems at the last minute. We wish to thank all the Session Organizers who willingly volunteered to work with us in planning panels and other sessions for the Forum. We are also working with a team of RC32 members spearheaded by Joanna Hadjicostandi to revise the RC 32 Statutes. Once the revisions are completed, we will forward them to all members for your comments, followed by another round of revisions. The final vote of approval will be held during the Business Meeting in Vienna. We appreciate all the work put in by the team to revise the Statutes and thank you very much for all your efforts.

We are pleased to inform you that we submitted a grant proposal to the ISA Research Coordinating Committee for an activity grant to fund some of our programs over the next three years. We received Euro 1.960 for the period 2015-2018. We plan three main conference activities over the next three years. Our main conference activity will be the ISA Forum in Vienna. The RC32 theme which is “The Futures that We Want: Women’s Activism and Visionary Leadership in Local and Transnational Struggles for a Better World” reflects the general theme of the ISA Conference. Our second planned conference activity will be in the form of joint panel sessions with the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) International Committee during its Winter Meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, U.S.A. next February, 2016. RC32 members from the North America region will also be submitting proposals for individual presentations at the conference. We will send an announcement for the Call for Papers when this comes out. Our third conference activity which is still in early planning stages will be held in Ghana, West Africa towards the end of 2016. We are in discussions with the Center for Gender Studies and Advocacy (CEGENSA) at the University of Ghana which will be holding a conference in celebration of its 10\textsuperscript{th} year. Our plan is to embedded RC32 sessions as well as joint CEGENSA/RC32 sessions into the larger conference. CEGENSA was established in 2005 to formalize work that had been going on at the University of Ghana for many years, specifically to:

- Institutionalize gender as legitimate business of the University
- Coordinate and plan the teaching of courses on gender across the University
- Promote research, document and disseminate this for diverse audiences
- Provide services and facilities to meet the particular needs of female staff and students
- Promote advocacy and initiate policies on gender in the University
- Generate linkages with and provide extension work on gender with key stakeholders in government, NGOs, civil society and the donor community.
Over the past year, Josephine attended some conferences at which she presented papers. One of the conferences was the Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Conference in Washington, D.C. The theme of the conference was “Feminism in Theory, Practice, and Policy”. Josephine participated in a panel session organized by RC32 member and SWS 2014 Feminist Lecturer Manisha Desai (University of Connecticut) on “Gender and Precarity in the Era of Globalization”. Other RC32 members who participated in the panel were Marlese Durr (Wright State University, U.S.A.) and Mary Osirim (Bryn Mawr College, U.S.A.). Several RC32 members organized sessions or presented individual papers including Maggie Abraham (ISA President), Bandana Purkayastha, Nancy Naples (University of Connecticut), Melanie Heath (McGill University), Solange Simoes (Eastern Michigan University), Mangala Subramanian (Purdue University), Esther Chow, Marica T. Segal, and many more. Josephine also attended the National Women’s Studies Association Conference in Puerto Rico and presented a paper on “Women’s Political Empowerment in Post-War Sierra Leone: Examining the Strategies of Engagement of the Fifty-Fifty Group.”

In August this year Akosua (RC 32 Co-President) and Glenda Bonifacio (RC32 Secretary and Treasurer) participated in the European Sociological Association’s 12th conference at the invitation of their Research Network on Women’s and Gender Studies, RN33. The theme of the conference, held in Prague from 25th to the 28th of August was Differences, Inequalities and Sociological Imagination.

The two RC32 Board members were keynote speakers in one of the Semi-Plenary sessions on “Public Policies and Solidarity in Women’s Lives: Differences and Inequalities”;
Akosua’s presentation was titled, “Changing Gender Policies in Ghana: The Journeys of Civil Society and State Actors” and Glenda spoke on “Contesting Politics in Asian Contexts: Women and Activism for Social Justice. RC32 is grateful to the ESA’s RN33, and especially to Maria Carmela Agodi and Isabella Crespi of RN33, and Consuelo Corradi, RC32 Board Representative for Europe, for making this happen.

We look forward to continue working with you all as we develop RC 32’s program for Vienna in 2016. We thank Nazanin, our Newsletter Editor for the excellent production of our newsletter. See you all in Vienna.

Josephine and Akosua
RC32 Co-Presidents
Plan your next summer ahead of time!
Join us in Vienna, Austria from July 10 to 14, 2016 for the 3rd ISA Forum of Sociology!

The deadline is 30 September 2015!
Here is what you should do:

◊ Visit:

◊ Browse through sessions:

The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World

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<td>Program Coordinators:</td>
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<td>Akosua ADOMAKO AMFO, University of Ghana, Ghana, <a href="mailto:Adomako@ug.edu.gh">Adomako@ug.edu.gh</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Josephine BEOKU-BETTS, Florida Atlantic University, USA, <a href="mailto:beoku@fau.edu">beoku@fau.edu</a></td>
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<td>Gender, Culture and Technologies in the Knowledge Economy</td>
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<td>Gender, Youth, and Migration: Modalities and Trajectories for Development</td>
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◊ Click on the one you like:

The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World

3rd ISA Forum of SOCIOLOGY
July 10–14, 2016
Vienna, Austria

View All Groups

Meeting Information

When:
July 10 - 14, 2016

Where:
Vienna, Austria

Intersections of Power in Research: Strategies for Action and Justice

Submit an Abstract to this Session

RC32 Women in Society (host committee)
Language: English

Academic activism has been growing as a methodological strategy to advance grassroots struggles for a better world while bridging the scholarly, political and community realms. Also known as participatory action research and activist research, this kind of approach has been central to feminist movements within and beyond academia.

◊ Click on “Submit an Abstract to this Session” and you will be redirected to log in to your ISA account.

◊ Session Organizers will thoroughly review all abstracts and inform the participants about the final arrangements of their sessions. Stay tuned!
In order to reduce the communication work load for the secretary and create a more vibrant environment within which RC32 members could exchange information and get updates on various conferences and RC32-related events, we have created a Facebook Page for RC32 (See below). From now on, such news as announcements of promotions, publications, jobs, conferences, etc. will be communicated via our Facebook Page and will be administered by our newsletter editor. Please send such news via Facebook messages. All announcements, information, instructions from the ISA, Co-presidents, and members of the board or Regional Representatives that are directly related to core RC 32 business will continue to be shared via our secretary.
Patricia Tomic, our Regional Representative from Canada, urges RC32 members to reflect on what has come to be known as the “refugee crises” with a particular attention to the situation of women.

Here is her note:

On early September Canadians and the world were shocked by a brutal photo in the media of a three-year old Syrian Kurdish child who drowned in the Mediterranean when the boat that was carrying him and his family to Europe capsized. The child died with his mother and 5-year old brother. They had family in Canada.

The news about this tragedy brought the refugee crisis to Canadians, making them aware of the government’s poor response to the plight of refugees seeking asylum in Canada. Although Canada signed the Refugee Convention in 1969, 18 years after it was adopted by the United Nations, it has the reputation of being a world leader in refugee protection. Today, as never before, this reputation is in question, both in Canada and abroad.

According to the Canadian Council for Refugees, in July 2013, the Canadian government committed to resettle 1,300 Syria refugees by the end of 2014. Of these, only 200 places
were to be Government-Assisted Refugees. The private sector, through voluntary efforts, was to be responsible for the reminding 1,100 places. However, only 9 Syrians were resettled in Canada by the government in the first eight months of 2013, while fewer than 400 Syrian citizens made refugee claims from January 2012 to June 2013. This poor record of humanitarian action by government has continued. While the UN High Commissioner for Refugees is seeking commitments for 100,000 resettlement spaces by the end of 2016, in January of this year the Canadian government reluctantly pledged to resettle 10,000 Syrian refugees over a period of three years.

Women and their children constitute a significant number of the population being displaced by war and other conflicts. The Women’s Refugee Commission advocacy group argues that as of 2014, 80% of the 51 million refugees worldwide were women. Their health disproportionately suffers in times of war and displacement. In the Syrian conflict, women’s health, and particularly, reproductive health has been compromised. In a paper in Humanity in Action, Goleen Samari argues that “Syrian women experience sexual harassment, rape, violence, early age at marriage, early age at pregnancy and complications during pregnancy.”

On September 11, 2015 Canadian refugee and rights organizations release a proposal for a strong Canadian response to the Syrian refugee crisis (http://ccrweb.ca/en/release-proposal-response-syrian-refugees). As a member of RC32 Women in Society, and as a former refugee, I am writing this letter to invite you to reflect on the fact that a large number of displaced people through war and persecution are women and children, the most vulnerable among them. I urge the members of RC32 to join others organizations pressing the Canadian government to respond to the refugee crisis with urgency and commitment, paying particular attention to the women and children displaced by the violence of war.

▪▪ From the other side of the globe, Tanaka Sigeto, RC32 member from Japan, points to the politicization of knowledge ▪▪

Here is what Tanaka has shared with us:

Misuse of a falsified chart about the likelihood of conception in high-school education material in Japan

In August 2015, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT) published a new edition of a side-reader for health education in high-school. It featured a chart about women’s age profile of the likelihood of conception, which emphasizes the peak at age 22 and the sharp decline in the late-20s. This chart was immediately broadcasted by mass-media to arouse public attention. Shortly after that, however, it was detected that the chart was a falsified one. The original chart (Fig. 3 on
O’Connor et al., 1998, *Maturitas*, 30(2): 127-136) gives more moderate impression and it shows a curve of “apparent fecundability” in the terminology of demography, which means not the same as the ability of conception as a medical topic. Since this scandal heated up on the Web, MEXT accepted that the side-reader contains an error. MEXT also announced that errata will be distributed to high-schools to correct the citations and the chart to show the same curve as the original, but there will be no change in the accompanied text explaining women’s age profile in the likelihood of conception from a medical perspective.

The falsified chart was used as the first figure in a document co-authored by Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (JSOG) and other 8 academic associations, which was submitted to the government in January 2015 as a request to introduce medical knowledge about human reproduction into formal school education. Their request was one of the factors that prompted MEXT to publish the new side-reader. A newspaper (Mainichi Shinbun, August 25, 2015) reported that the falsified chart had been offered by Yoshimura Yasunori, the former President of JSOG and a Special Advisor to the Cabinet in charge of measures to counter the declining birthrate. However, he and the nine academic societies, as well as obstetrics/gynecology doctors and researchers, have so far made no explanation about the misuse of the falsified chart.

Some feminist scholars and activists are claiming the withdrawal of the side-reader, because it contains wrong interference with opportunities for youth to obtain scientific knowledge about their body and reproduction. In addition, we can make approaches toward this scandal with a variety of perspectives such as scientific knowledge manipulated for a political intention, ambitious academics invading the policy-making process, and government’s intervention into school education. These are related to many subject areas of sociology. I would like to call attention of sociologists to mobilize sociological knowledge to clarify the social process and structure behind the scandal.

References

The Mainichi (2015-09-02) “Fertility chart in high school education material once again found inappropriate”

http://mainichi.jp/english/english/newsselect/news/20150902p2a00m0na011000c.html

Tanaka Sigeto (2015-09-04) “Pushing a falsified chart into high-school education material” http://d.hatena.ne.jp/remcat/20150904
Call for Book Chapters

Call for Proposals: Advances in Gender Research 22

Gender and Food: From Production to Consumption And After, Edited by: Marcia Texler Segal and Vasilikie Demos

Deadline for Abstract Submission: 1 October 2015; Deadline for Completed Draft*: January 15, 2016; Publication Date: Fall 2016

We are looking for papers exploring the relationship between gender and food as evidenced globally, societally, and locally with respect to the full range of issues associated with production, consumption and the effects of both.

Abstracts of at least 500 words or early drafts of papers on gender as it impacts or is affected by access to agricultural land and markets are welcome as are abstracts on the relationship between gender in food desert neighborhoods, school feeding programs, and food banks. We also welcome abstracts on gender and child malnutrition/hunger, food preparation, food practices and diet, eating disorders, food and emotions, food fashions, food vending, food resources, food ethics and morality, food security/insecurity, alternative food movements, food industry, food preferences, food proximity, food sovereignty, food discourse, food safety, and food labeling. The relationship between gender and food cross-nationally, gender and the relationship between food animals and fisheries, gender as it affects food service employees and gender as it impinges on agrarian class structures are also appropriate topics.

Papers that use an intersectional approach and those that have stated policy implications are of especially welcome. Both qualitative and quantitative abstracts are welcome. The editors will base their decision to publish submitters’ papers on review by the AGR editorial board. Submitters will be informed of the editors’ decision by November 15. Abstracts, drafts of a paper and inquiries should be sent to both Vicky Demos: v.demos.agr@gmail.com and Marcia Texler Segal: mtsegal.agr@gmail.com/

*Completed papers should be under 8,000 words.
Job Openings

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

The Department of Sociology and the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute (LACSI) invite applications for a tenure-track assistant professor position to begin fall 2016. Candidates must have a Ph.D. in Sociology or have completed all the requirements for this degree by August 10, 2016. We are looking for outstanding scholars whose empirical research and substantive interests focus on Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos and Latinas in the U.S. The successful candidate will be able to teach courses not only in sociology but also in Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Preference will be given to candidates who are prepared to teach sociological theory. We seek candidates with a record of high quality research and who show promise of securing external funding. We invite interested candidates to visit the websites of the Sociology Department (http://www.uga.edu/soc/) and the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute (http://www.lacsiuga.org/). LACSI is a vibrant, interdisciplinary academic community with 150 affiliate faculty and opportunities for collaboration across the university. The Institute has recently been awarded the U.S. Department of Education’s Title VI NRC and FLAS grants.

Please submit applications online at https://www.franklin.uga.edu/jobs. Applicants should upload a cover letter, C.V., research statement, statement of teaching experience and interests, and a writing sample. Applicants will be asked to provide names and e-mail addresses of three letter-writers who will receive an online link for submitting letters of reference. The University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Vet/Disability institution. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation or protected veteran status. The Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, its many units, and the University of Georgia are committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty and students, and sustaining a work and learning environment that is inclusive. Women, minorities and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Faculty members are expected to support the college’s goals of creating and sustaining a diverse and inclusive learning environment. Georgia is well known for its quality of life in regard to both outdoor and urban activities (http://exploregeorgia.org). UGA is a land- and sea-grant institution located in Athens, 70 miles northeast of Atlanta, the state capital (www.visitathensga.com; www.uga.edu). Review of applications will begin on September 12, 2015 and will continue until the position is filled. Inquiries may be directed to the chair of the recruitment committee, Patricia Richards (plr333@uga.edu).
RC32 members have been very productive in 2015. Here is what some of our members have been up to (listed in alphabetical order):

Akosua Adomako Ampofo, Professor of African and Gender Studies and the Director of the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana, will be Fulbright-Scholar in Residence at Concordia University in Irvine, California for the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters.

She has co-edited (with Cheryl Rodriguez and Dzodzi Tsikata) a new book, entitled Transatlantic Feminisms: Women and Gender Studies in Africa and Diaspora with Lexington Books. Transatlantic Feminisms is an interdisciplinary collection of original feminist research on women’s lives in Africa and the African diaspora. Demonstrating the power and value of transcontinental connections and exchanges between feminist thinkers, this unique collection of fifteen essays addresses the need for global perspectives on gender, ethnicity, race, and class.
Josephine Beoku-Betts, Professor of Sociology and Women’s Studies at Florida Atlantic University, has two new publications:


Eva Alterman Blay, Senior Professor of Sociology at University of Sao Paulo, has the following news to share with us: Eva Blay (with Lucia Avelar, Professor at University of Sao Paulo) directed a following research project, entitled 50 YEARS OF FEMINISM (1965-2015): NEW PARADISM, FUTURE CHALLENGES. BRAZIL, ARGENTINA AND CHILE, with the support received from FAPESP and CNPq support. This research is in progress and has the participation of a group of PHD colleagues from the three countries including different level students.

Summary: During the last 50 years in Latin America, especially in Argentine, Brazil and Chile, a process of a profound cultural shift was induced by Feminism. A new global and anti-colonial paradigm took place, characterized by the fundamental practice of re-defining and re-assigning meanings to reality, subverting the established cultural codes. These were decades of progressive changes, Past resisting and struggling the Present, building obstacles to the Future. The project presented here aims to investigate, deepen and codify the processes of sociocultural changes generated by feminism, the existing resistance and the perspectives for new generations. During the 1960’s, theoretical elaboration focused Woman as protagonist; the concept of ”gender” focusing the relationships between women and men was developed later, during the 1990’s. The next theoretical step shall take masculinity into consideration. The complexity of such a subject demands a thematic project, which will make it possible to compare Brazil, Argentine and Chile. Feminist actions in three periods will be considered: during dictatorship, during democracy, and during new cultural time. During the dictatorship years, the focus will be in social movements of women against the regime, its singularities as resistance,
the relationships between national and international agencies, demands in health, sexual rights, and violence against women. After democratization, the research will stress new institutional trends like social, economic and political mobility, as in state bureaucracy and legislative power as well. We will be asking in terms of ethnic groups and generations who the new protagonists are. In new cultural time we will analyze the new instruments against domestic violence as the new Law “Lei Maria DA Penha”. We want to know if we have now new patterns of masculinity and what can we say about new gender patterns relationships. How feminism became a new political and cultural force in Latin America? Feminism thought is in the present accepted as an ideology to improve the status of women in society?


Anna-Britt Coe, Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department Of Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Umeå University, participated in the ISA-RC21 (Urban and Regional Development) Conference “The Ideal City: between myth and reality” in Urbino, Italy between August 27-29, 2015. Anna-Britt writes that “it was a well-organized and enriching conference with a strong emphasis on class inequalities and global perspectives but less emphasis on gender. I presented the following paper “Constructing gender in urban safety activism: A qualitative study of on-line actions in Sweden”.”

She also has a new article in Gender & Society, entitled “‘I AM NOT JUST A FEMINIST EIGHT HOURS A DAY’: Youth Gender Justice Activism in Ecuador and Peru. DOI: 10.1177/0891243215599647.”
Laura Corradi, Faculty member at the Department of Social and Political Sciences at University of Calabria, has collected all her writings on her blog. I invite you all to check out her blog called Body Politics. You can find her photos, publications and essays at: http://bodypolitics.noblogs.org/

Vasilikie Demas, Professor Emerita of Sociology at the University of Minnesota Morris, and Marcia Texler Segal, Professor of Sociology and Dean for Research Emerita at Indiana University of Southeast, have edited a new book, entitled AT THE CENTER: FEMINISM, SOCIAL SCIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE. This is the 20th volume in the Advances in Gender Research series and provides an opportunity to reflect on how the study of gender has changed and how studying gender has affected research methods and knowledge. Honoring bell hooks’ 1984 prophetic work, Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center, the volume considers advances in so far as they represent a centering of feminist knowledge and an understanding of the processes by which feminist knowledge is constructed. A multinational group of contributors explore relatively new problems such as the integration of transgender study into ongoing gender knowledge, traditional topics such as immigration in so far as they incorporate current gendered thinking, and methodological issues pertaining to the effects of research on the researcher and the researched as well as other epistemological matters. Chapters reflect the strength of a range of qualitative methods including examination of historical sources, diaries and auto-ethnography, and explore the ways that large sample quantitative analyses can enhance understanding of dilemmas faced in everyday life. The interdisciplinary nature of gender studies and the cross-pollination of theoretical perspectives are illustrated as is the globalization of gender theory, research, pedagogy,
and policies. A 30% ASA/SWS discount is available through Nov. 20, 2015 at www.emeraldinsight.com/offer using the code SOCPP15 Contents and abstracts of this and other AGR volumes can be viewed and individual chapters purchased on the Emerald website.

Chandrabali Dutta, Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at Basanti Devi College affiliated with the University of Calcutta, India, announces the submission of her dissertation in the month of April 2015. She also has her article, “Exploring Social Construction of Victims through Gendering of Language: An Untold Account”, published in Language in India, 2015, Vol. 15, No. 5.


Other recent online publications are the book, NaisUrat-hankkeen loppuraportti, Hanken/Edita, Helsinki, 2015 (https://helda.helsinki.fi/handle/10138/152744?show=full), arising from the completed EU project, ‘Women’s Careers (NaisUrat)’ project, co-authored by Jeff Hearn, Anna-Maija Lämsä, Ingrid Biese, Suvi Heikkinen, Jonna Louvrier, Charlotta Niemistö, Emilia Kangas, Paula Koskinen, Marjut Jyrkinen, Malin

The Routledge Advances in Feminist Studies and Intersectionality book series continues to publish new titles (https://www.routledge.com/series/RAIFSAI). The series is committed to the development of new feminist and profeminist perspectives on changing gender relations, with special attention to: Intersections between gender and power differentials based on age, class, dis/abilities, ethnicity, nationality, racialisation, sexuality, violence, and other social divisions; Intersections of societal dimensions and processes of continuity and change: culture, economy, generativity, polity, sexuality, science and technology; Embodiment: Intersections of discourse and materiality, and of sex and gender; Transdisciplinarity: intersections of humanities, social sciences, medical, technical and natural sciences; Intersections of different branches of feminist theorizing, including: historical materialist feminisms, postcolonial and anti-racist feminisms, radical feminisms, sexual difference feminisms, queerfeminisms, cyberfeminisms, posthuman feminisms, critical studies on men and masculinities; A critical analysis of the travelling of ideas, theories and concepts; A politics of location, reflexivity and transnational contextualizing that reflects the basis of the Series framed within European diversity and transnational power relations.

Recently published books include:

- Gender, Globalization, and Violence: Postcolonial Conflict Zones, edited by Sandra Ponzanesi
- Writing Academic Texts Differently: Intersectional Feminist Methodologies and the Playful Art of Writing, edited by Nina Lykke
- Love: A Question for Feminism in the Twenty-First Century, edited by Anna G. Jónasdóttir and Ann Ferguson (paperback)
- Tourism and the Globalization of Emotions: The Intimate Economy of Tango, by Maria Törnqvist (paperback)
- Rethinking Transnational Men: Beyond, Between and Within Nations, edited by Jeff Hearn, Marina Blagojević and Katherine Harrison (paperback)
- Being a Man in a Transnational World: The Masculinity and Sexuality of Migration, by Ernesto Vasquez del Aguila (paperback)

Gay Young, Professor of Sociology at the American University, USA, has published a new book: Gendering Globalization on the Ground: The Limits of Feminized Work for Mexican Women’s Empowerment, Routledge, 2015. How has globalization worked for women working on the frontlines of neoliberalism on the Mexico-US border? This border divides "US" from "Others" and produces social inequalities that form a site where marginalized border women encounter the othering power of neoliberalism and confront inequalities of gender and class. Within this context, a critical comparison of socially similar women, working either in export production industries or in small-scale commerce and low-level services in Ciudad Juárez, reveals how export factory work constrains women’s empowerment at home—as well as the wages they earn and the well being of their households.
This book challenges the neoliberal rationale of "empowering" women to support market growth, and argues instead for understanding women’s empowerment as a process of transformation from disempowerment by gender power relations to challenging masculinist domination in households and, ultimately, the economy and society. Because structures of gender and globalization are mutually constituted, women’s empowerment as gender democracy is integral to producing alternative, democratic globalization. Using a feminist methodology that gives attention to the standpoint of women located on the downside of social hierarchies and takes into account strategically diverse points of view, this study develops analysis to counter neoliberal globalization as it touches down in the lives of ordinary women and men on the border and beyond.

Link to website:  http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9781138809826/