



Agriculture and Food

The E-Newsletter of the ISA Research Committee on Agriculture and Food (RC40)

Volume 7 Number 1July 2013

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From the President

Marie-Christine Renard
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A battle does not make the war but the news highlights the weight that public opinion and consumers and alternative agri-food and environmental movements can have on a corporation's decisions: Monsanto announced July 18 that it had withdrawn all demands for homologation of new transgenic crops in Europe. The reasons for its withdrawal are the complications of the homologations procedures in the EU and the poor economic prospects for its products in countries mostly adverse to GMOs. However, Monsanto won't withdraw the request for renewal of its transgenic corn MON810, cultivated in 95% of Spain and Portugal and under moratorium in eight other countries. In contrast to its decision to abandon new requests for GMOs production, Monsanto will attempt to import to Europe larger quantities of transgenic crops, such as soy and corn for livestock, produced extensively in North and South America.

At these moments of confrontation between seed producing transnational corporations and environmental and anti-GMOs movements, several studies remind us of the role of women in agriculture and as custodian of biodiversity.

Agriculture is increasingly feminized, mostly in developing countries though not only there. In many countries in the Global South, the bankruptcy of agriculture caused by free trade and trade liberalization has pushed men to migrate to the cities or to countries in the Global North. In Africa, the high mortality due to HIV has had a high impact. Women then are often in charge of the family plots and food production. The FAO highlights that women represent 43% of the agriculture labor force in developing countries; but their productive potential is reduced by strong limitations in access to resources such as land, inputs, services and credit. Women in developing countries produce from 60% to 80% of the food. In the

EU, women represent about 40% of the active agriculture population; many of them are wage workers and one out of five farms is headed by a women. Of major importance is their role as custodians for agriculture and livestock biodiversity: production and conservation of indigenous seeds, knowledge about genetic resources, food storage, etc. Women's importance, however, is too often missing in political discussions; their role as food producers, their contribution to household food security and above all, as custodian of biodiversity against the homologation of industrial and transgenic seeds, is not sufficiently recognized.

Una batalla no hace la guerra pero la noticia resalta el peso que pueden adquirir las opiniones públicas, los consumidores y el activismo de los movimientos agroalimentarios alternativos sobre las decisiones de las corporaciones: Monsanto anunció (18 de julio) que retiraba todas sus solicitudes de homologación de nuevos cultivos transgénicos para Europa, debido a lo tortuoso del procedimiento en la Unión Europea para la obtención de permisos y a la pobre perspectiva económica para sus productos en unos países mayoritariamente hostiles a los OGMs. No retirará, sin embargo, la solicitud de renovación del maíz transgénico MON810, resistente a insectos y cultivado en un 95% en España y Portugal y que enfrenta moratorias en otros 8 países europeos. En contraparte a su decisión de no solicitar nuevas autorizaciones de cultivo, intentará incrementar la importación a Europa de semillas transgénicas, como la soya, el maíz y otros, utilizadas para la alimentación pecuaria y producidas masivamente en América del Norte y del Sur.

En momentos de confrontación entre las corporaciones transnacionales de producción de semillas y los movimientos medioambientalistas y anti-OGMs, varios estudios nos recuerdan el papel de las mujeres en la agricultura y su importancia como guardiana de la biodiversidad.

La agricultura está crecientemente feminizada, sobre todo en los países en desarrollo pero no solamente en estos. En muchos países del Sur, la quiebra de la

agricultura causada por la apertura comercial y el libre comercio ha empujado a los hombres a la migración a las ciudades o al Norte. En África, se añade la mortalidad debida al VIH-Sida. Las mujeres se quedan entonces a menudo a cargo de la explotación familiar y de la producción alimentaria. La FAO destaca que el 43% de la fuerza laboral agrícola en los países en desarrollo está constituida por mujeres; pero su potencial productivo se ve rebajado por los límites que tienen en cuanto a su acceso a recursos como la tierra, la maquinaria, los insumos y el financiamiento. Las mujeres producen entre el 60 y el 80% de los alimentos en estos países. En la Unión Europea, representan alrededor del 40% de la población agrícola activa, muchas de ellas siendo asalariadas; una de cada 5 explotaciones agrícolas es dirigida por una mujer. Sobre todo, a cargo de las mujeres está gran parte de la conservación de la biodiversidad agrícola y ganadera: producción y preservación de semillas autóctonas, conocimientos específicos en relación a recursos genéticos, almacenamiento de reservas, producción animal de traspatio o de especies mayores etc... Sin embargo, su importancia es un tema ausente a menudo de las discusiones políticas y su papel en la producción de alimentos, en la seguridad alimentaria de las familias y sobre todo, como guardianas de la biodiversidad en contra de la homologación de semillas industriales y transgénicas no está suficientemente reconocido.

Une bataille ne décide pas d'une guerre mais la nouvelle montre l'influence que peuvent avoir l'opinion publique, les décisions des consommateurs et l'activisme de mouvements agro-alimentaires alternatifs sur les décisions des corporations : Monsanto a annoncé (18 juillet) qu'elle retirait toutes ses demandes d'homologation de nouvelles cultures transgéniques en Europe, les procédés de l'Union Européenne étant long et tortueux et les perspectives économiques pauvres dans des pays majoritairement hostiles aux OGMs. Elle ne retirera cependant pas la demande de renouvellement du maïs MON 810, dont 95% est produit en Espagne et au

Portugal et sur lequel pèse un moratoire dans 8 autres pays. Par contre, elle essaiera d'augmenter les importations vers l'Europe de semences transgéniques de produits comme le soja et le maïs destinés à l'alimentation animales et cultivés massivement en Amérique du Nord et du Sud.

En ces moments d'affrontement entre les corporations des semences et les mouvements de protection de l'environnement et anti-OGMs, plusieurs études nous rappellent le rôle des femmes dans l'agriculture et leur importance comme préservatrices de la biodiversité.

L'agriculture est de plus en plus féminisée, surtout, mais pas uniquement dans les pays en développement. Dans de nombreux pays du Sud, la faillite de l'agriculture provoquée par le libre commerce et l'ouverture commerciale a poussé les hommes à émigrer vers les villes ou vers les pays du Nord. En Afrique, la mortalité due au VIH-Sida a encore aggravé la situation. Les femmes se retrouvent à la tête des exploitations familiales et de la production alimentaire. La FAO souligne

que les femmes représentent 43% de la main d'oeuvre agricole dans les pays en développement; mais leur potentiel productif est diminué par les restrictions qu'elles rencontrent quant à l'accès aux ressources comme la terre, les intrants, les services, les crédits. Les femmes produisent de 60 à 80% des aliments de ces pays. Dans l'Union Européennes, elles constituent environ 40% de la population agricole active, dont bon nombre sont salariées. Une exploitation agricole sur cinq est dirigée par une femme. Surtout, les femmes ont la charge de la préservation de la biodiversité agricole: production et conservation des semences autochtones, connaissances spécifiques des ressources génétiques, stockage des réserves d'aliments, production a animale etc... Leur importance est cependant souvent absente des discussions politiques et leur rôle dans la production d'aliments, la sécurité alimentaire des familles et comme sauvegarde de la biodiversité contre l'uniformité des semences industrielles et transgéniques n'est pas suffisamment reconnue.

**XVIII ISA WORLD CONGRESS
OF SOCIOLOGY**
FACING AN UNEQUAL WORLD:
CHALLENGES FOR GLOBAL SOCIOLOGY
13-19 July 2014

Research Committee on Sociology of Agriculture and Food, RC40

The submission of abstracts organized by the ISA Research Committees, Working and Thematic Group is now open.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, please submit an abstract on-line **before September 30, 2013.**

To submit your abstract go to: <https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/wc2014/cfp.cgi>

For more details, please see Guidelines for Presenters

<http://isa-sociology.us7.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=a380bc1925e3c97a0b2a3d4b6&id=c72da08b3c&e=7e230ec555>

RC40 Proposed Sessions in alphabetical Order

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/rc/rc.php?n=RC40>

Alternative Food Practices in the Global South: Organic and Sustainable Production and Local/Global Issues in Distribution and Consumption

Session Organizer

Patricia TOMIC, University of British Columbia, Canada, patricia.tomic@ubc.ca

Session in English

In the last decades there has been an explosion of interest in the study of food worldwide. However, the study of food practices in the Global South has not received enough attention, particularly in sociology.

Topics may cover (but are not limited) to the following:

- Local/global relations in the production, distribution and consumption of food from a Southern Perspective.
- Producers, distributors and consumers of organic and sustainable food in the global South.
- Fair Trade and the global South
- The local and the seasonal in alternative food practices in the South
- Labor relations in the production and distribution of food in the South
- Labour, agricultural migration and the economy of organic and sustainable food worldwide
- Quality initiatives: sustainability criteria in labels/certification of food in the global South
- South food production and international Norms/Regulations (public & private)
- Class, gender, race and alternative food practices
- South-bound tourism and organic/sustainable food practices
- North-South volunteer work and alternative practices in food production
- Discourses of food, health, and sustainability in the global South
- Global corporations and organic/sustainable food production and distribution
- Popular culture, organic/sustainable food and the global South
- Organic food, sustainability, identity and the global South
- The relationship between organic and sustainable food production/ consumption and the cosmetic industry

Food Security Part I. Intersections between Indigenous Knowledge, Sustainable Agriculture and Sustainable Livelihoods

Session Organizers

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Session in English

Food security refers to the stage when all people at all times have access to sufficient safe nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. In many parts of rural Asia, profound challenges face the goal of improving the food security circumstances of the poor. This panel session will address two key research sub-themes associated with the contemporary problematic of food insecurity.

The first of these sub-themes relates to the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge in the attainment of sustainable agriculture. In rural populations across the developing world, agriculture generally remains the largest employment sector. Ensuring small farmers can continue to cultivate sustainably on small plots is essential for food security. However, in rural communities, households are increasingly organizing their agricultural activities within complex webs of non-agricultural livelihood options. This brings forth the second key-sub-theme of the session, which relates to sustainable livelihoods. The Livelihoods Approach emerged in the 1990s as a strategy for rescaling analytical foci in the social sciences to the level of individuals, households and communities. During the past two decades its influence has waxed and waned in line with trends and priorities among stakeholder communities, especially, aid and development agencies.

By focusing on the changes within agriculture (with particular reference to Indigenous Knowledge and agricultural sustainability) and those from outside of agriculture (via the Sustainable livelihoods perspective) this session will highlight a holistic and people-centric view of food security which gives priority to the needs of poor households.

Food Security Part II. Politics of Food Security in Asia Pacific: Neoliberal Reforms, Contamination, and Social Movements

Session Organizers

Keiko TANAKA, University of Kentucky, USA,
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Session in English

Threats to food security in the Asia Pacific region come from multiple directions, and this panel focuses particularly on two aspects: 1) the neoliberal reforms of agricultural sector and 2) food contamination due to disasters and accidents.

First, many countries in the Asia Pacific are pushing for free trade, direct foreign investment and corporatization of agriculture and fisheries. This trend is particularly evident in the case of TPP and KORUS. Many countries in the region are heavily dependent on food imports, whereby affecting the fragile world food market. In the mainstream discourse, however, those “food security concerns” are appropriated and manipulated to justify the business-as-usual agricultural and food policy for further neoliberal reforms and large-scale overseas agricultural investment in order to make food accessible in the globalized market at the expense of food sovereignty within and beyond the region.

Second is the issue of the widespread food contamination via accidents and disasters. The case of the Fukushima No.1 nuclear accident is reflective of the broader pattern, including the lack of accountability and information disclosure from the governmental and scientific authorities, consumer panic, and decline in farm economy. The Japanese government released little information on the contamination, citing social anxiety and “harmful rumors,” and is using the discourse of reconstruction as a way to further push for reforms driven by neoliberalism in the agriculture and fishery sectors.

In either case there can be observed conflicts/collaborations among government, business, and community/citizen groups in

addressing a heightened sense of food crisis and insecurity whether brought by neoliberal reforms, devastating disasters and accidents. We welcome contributions that assess the impact of market-based reforms and free trade regimes in agrifood sectors, the implications of widespread food contamination, and the prospect of social movements that are responding to these food security challenges.

Food Security Part III. Critical Perspectives on Food Crises, World Hunger and Farming Alternatives

Session Organizers

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Session in English

Recent world food crises have triggered food riots and political instability in numerous countries. The popular press and international organizations offer explanations that highlight proximate causes including the food price explosion in response to the growing and changing demand for food, extension of biofuel production, higher oil prices, climatic shifts, and speculation. Other accounts explore long-term and structural processes that shape agricultural production regimes. Often, the latter focus is on a transformation of the world food system that highlights the displacement of staple food crops with exports, an increasing monopolistic control of world food supplies by multinational corporations, world trade liberalization and unfair trade agreements with effects that leave countries of the global south vulnerable to global markets shocks yet increasingly dependent on food imports.

This proposed session seeks to explore these themes within the context of how they are deployed to reframe popular understanding as well as institutional practices and policy choices. How, for example, have farming alternatives movements and debates on food sovereignty, agrarian justice, food democracy, and the right to food reframed popular understandings of the food crisis, social responsibility, and interpretations of rights and entitlements? Alternatively, how has a rejection of the demand for food

sovereignty and IAASTD's policy options shaped policy discourses and practices or investments in agricultural production?

Global Agri-Food and Labor Relations: Exploitation, Vulnerabilities and Resistance of Agri-Food Workers

Session Organizers

Alessandro BONANNO, Sam Houston State University, USA, soc_aab@shsu.edu

Josefa Salete B. CAVALCANTI, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil, saletcav@gmail.com

Session in English

Under neoliberal globalization limited scientific attention has been paid to labor relations in agri-food. Additionally, a number of theoretical formulations downplayed the importance of labor, despite the centrality of the restructuring of labor relations in the global era. The result has been that the copious literature on global agrifood has focused on a variety of relevant topics but has not produced adequate contributions on labor relations (use, conditions, exploitation, vulnerabilities, but also resistance) and the role that labor plays in current social relations.

This session wants to address this gap by soliciting papers that address salient aspects of labor relations in agri-food under neoliberal globalization. Papers that discuss aspects of labor relations in production, retailing, processing and other facets of the agrifood process as well as forms of labor resistance to dominant socio-economic arrangements are welcome. Papers that use qualitative and quantitative data as well as theoretical papers are welcome.

Salient research questions can cover – but may not be limited to – topics such as forms of labor aggregation across agri-food commodity chains; forms of labor utilization and their relationships with production and consumption processes; issues of solidarity between producers and consumers; labor and other social movements; labor, gender and locality; certification and labor.

Land as an Asset Class: The Future of Food and Farming

Session Organizers

Hilde BJORKHAUG, Centre for Rural Research, Norway, hilde.bjorkhaug@bygdeforskning.no

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Carol RICHARDS, University of Queensland, Australia, c.richards@uq.edu.au

Phillip MCMICHAEL, Cornell University, USA, pdm1@cornell.edu

Bruce MUIRHEAD, University of Waterloo, Canada, muirhead@uwaterloo.ca

Session in English

Agricultural land is a vital yet limited resource – we depend upon it for food production, but it is also in direct competition with other activities, such as housing, infrastructure, mining, investment, carbon off-setting, biofuel production, and nature conservation. This competition has direct impacts for national and international food security.

The spectre of food insecurity is also intensified by the combination of global population growth, environmental degradation, climate change and excessive market speculation of agricultural assets. These processes and their outcomes have heightened interest, globally, in securing land as an asset or what has been referred to as “land grabbing”. The conflicts related to multiple land uses often marginalize women, indigenous peoples and peasants, as well as threatening the cultural significance of land. At the same time, this asset-based view of land also side-lines non-economic values and other less tangible public goods including aesthetics, maintenance of a sense of ‘place’, and intrinsic links between humans and nature.

This working group encourages insights into how ‘resource hierarchies’ are culturally constructed, as different interests and agendas compete for this finite resource. For instance, how do agricultural interests, environmental interests and financial interests develop and seek to impose, different and potentially conflicting approaches to the ‘meaning’ of land, and to land management?

Answering this question might involve the consideration of any of the following: the role of financial institutions in altering the course of modern agriculture; the links between financialisation, globalisation, neoliberalisation and power; the dynamics of finance capital's role in agriculture; power relations influencing land acquisition; retailer and consumer dynamics; and the impact of these relationships of power on food democracy, food security and resistance.

RC40 Business Meeting

Towards a Different and More Future-Oriented Understanding of Agricultural Modernization

Session Organizers

Karlheinz KNICKEL, SD Innovation Consulting, Germany, karlheinz.knickel@gmail.com

Douglas H. CONSTANCE, Sam Houston State University, USA, soc_dhc@shsu.edu

Session in English

In this session we want to jointly explore alternative trajectories of agricultural development – addressing the increasing scarcity of natural resources, distributional questions and the deep uncertainty regarding future developments and new challenges (like climate change). The discussions are to improve our understanding of the multiple mechanisms underlying rural prosperity and resilience. Contributions will highlight potential synergies between farm ‘modernization’ and sustainable rural development and explore a different and more future-oriented understanding of the term ‘modernization’.

The discussion will explicitly recognize the complexity of challenges, the diversity in situations, and the multidimensionality of strategies forward. The contributions will be diverse and have different boundaries but they are to combine an explorative perspective with an action-oriented policy and governance orientation, highlighting innovative development trajectories.

The conclusions will focus on issues that are particularly relevant for decision-makers: How do market forces, societal demands and resource constraints interact to create both opportunities and constraints for local actors? Where are the links between farm modernization, rural development, commodity systems and resilience and how can we shape them in positive ways? Factors that enable and encourage the creation of synergies will be identified. The discussion might be structured by four thematic areas: Resilience, Prosperity, Governance, Knowledge and Learning (to be re-examined on the basis of the papers submitted).

The session wants to facilitate an informed and productive interaction among researchers from a wide range of disciplines and, as much as that is possible, representatives from industry, government and civil society organisations. The aim is to overcome simplistic viewpoints of what ‘modernization’ entails by identifying best practices supporting a sustainable agriculture in vibrant rural areas.

Report from the Editors
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
SOCIOLOGY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
Mara Miele, Vaughan Higgins, Farshad Araghi

Issues since the last RC-40 Newsletter

Since the last newsletter one issue of the journal have been published online.

Available at:

<http://www.ijsof.org/contents/index.html>

Volume 20, Issue 1 (2013)

Special Issue: Private Agri-food Standards Part 1: Contestation, Hybridity and the Politics of Standards

Editorial Introduction

Private Agri-food Standards: Contestation, Hybridity and the Politics of Standards

Authors: Carmen Bain, Elizabeth Ransom and Vaughan Higgins

Articles

1. *Standards as Hybrid Forum: Comparison of the Post-Fukushima Radiation Standards by a Consumer Cooperative, the Private Sector, and the Japanese Government*

Author: Aya Hirata Kimura

2. *Pushing the Boundaries of the Social: Private Agri-food Standards and the Governance of Fair Trade in European Public Procurement*

Authors: Eleanor Fisher and Hannah Sheppard

3. *Competing Logics in the Further Standardization of Fair Trade: ISEAL and the Símbolo de Pequeños Productores*

Authors: Marie-Christine Renard and Allison Loconto

4. *Make It What Way? The Impact of Multiple Standards Regimes*

Author: Danielle Berman

5. *Entangled Standardizing Networks: The Case of GLOBALGAP and Fairtrade in St Vincent's Banana Industry*

Author: Haakon Aasprong

6. *Inferring the Unknown: Enacting Organic Standards through Certification*

Author: Maarten van der Kamp

7. *The Negotiation of Quality*

Standards: A Social Interactionist Approach to Fruit and Vegetable Distribution in Argentina

Authors: Maria Laura Viteri and Alberto Arce

Volume 20, Issue 2 (2013)

Special Issue: Private Agri-food Standards

Part 2: Supply Chains and the Governance of Standards

Editorial Introduction

Private Agri-food Standards: Supply Chains and the Governance of Standards

Authors: Elizabeth Ransom, Carmen Bain and Vaughan Higgins

Articles

1. *Legitimacy and Standard Development in Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives: A Case Study of the Leonardo Academy's Sustainable Agriculture Standard Initiative*

Authors: Maki Hatanaka and Jason Konefal

2. *The Limits of Voluntary Private Social Standards in Global Agri-food System Governance*

Author: Edward Challies

3. *On the Moral Equivalence of Global Commodities: Placing the Production and Consumption of Organic Bananas*

Authors: Amy Trauger and Andrew Murphy

4. *Modern Politics in Animal Welfare: the Changing Character of Governance of Animal Welfare and the Role of Private Standards*

Authors: Carolina Toschi Maciel and Bettina Bock

5. *A New Breed of Tomato Farmers? The Effect of Transnational Supermarket Standards on Domestic Cultures of Production and Trade*

Author: Jennifer Wiegel

6. *Negotiated Decision-Making: Understanding Farmer and Processor Certification*

Author: Rebecca L. Schewe

7. *Private Food Standards as Responsive Regulation: The Role of National Legislation in the Development and Evolution of GLOBALG.A.P.*

Authors: Stewart Lockie, Anne McNaughton, Lyndal-Joy Thompson and Rebeka Tennent

Homage to Bill Friedland

At the XIII World Congress of Rural Sociology in Portugal 2012, RC40 paid homage to the intellectual contributions of Bill Friedland. Below are some photographs from the RC40 dinner.



Figure 1: Clockwise from top left: Manuel Belo Moreira, Keiko Tanaka, Tony Winson, Doug Constance, Bill Friedland



Figure 2: Left to right: Bill Friedland, Doug Constance, Mustafa Koc



Figure 3: Left to right: Tomiko Yamaguchi, Salete Cavalcanti, Marie-Christine Renard, Alia Gana



Figure 4: Left to right: Ray Jussaume, Bill Friedland, Alessandro Bonanno

RC40 By-Laws

I. MEMBERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

I.A. Members are those who pay RC-40 dues and participate in the scientific activities of the committee. Dues are set by the Executive Committee of RC-40.

I.B. Members of RC-40 have the right to

I.B.1. Run for office

I.B.2. Vote in all RC-40 elections

I.B.3. Participate in RC-40 business meetings

I.B.3.a. To participate in the quadrennial business meetings, individuals must be members of the International Sociological Association

I.B.4. Have priority status for participation in any of the scientific activities of the committee

I.C. Members are strongly urged to maintain membership in good standing in the International Sociological Association

I.D. Officers of the RC-40 are

I.D.1. The President

I.D.2. The Secretary

I.D.3. The Executive Committee, which consists of

I.D.3.a. The current president and secretary-treasurer

I.D.3.b. The immediate past president and secretary-treasurer

I.D.3.c. Four elected representatives

I.E. Officers are elected in the year prior to the quadrennial World Congress and take office at that Congress

I.E.1. Officers cannot succeed themselves

I.E.2. All Officers must be members in good standing in the International Sociological Association

I.F. Duties of the President

I.F.1. The president has executive authority to organize the scientific and administrative work of the committee in consultation with the secretary-treasurer and members of the executive committee

I.F.2. The president convenes and organizes the quadrennial business

meeting as well as any meetings of the executive committee

I.F.3. The president appoints the editorial committee of the International Journal of the Sociology of Agriculture and Food

I.F.4. The president, with the assistance of the secretary, organizes the publication and distribution of the semi-annual newsletter

I.G. Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer

I.G.1. The secretary assists the president in the coordination of the scientific and business activities of RC-40

I.G.2. The secretary-treasurer shall maintain a record of all committee business and executive meetings, and maintain the financial records

I.G.3. The secretary shall make a yearly financial accounting to the executive committee and a quadrennial financial accounting to the membership at the quadrennial business meeting

I.G.4. The secretary shall be responsible for conducting the elections of new officers

I.H. Duties of the Members of the Executive Committee

I.H.1. Advise the President and Secretary on all scientific and business matters pertaining to the activities of the Research Committee

I.H.2. Review the secretary's annual financial report

II. SCIENTIFIC WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

II.A. To promote and encourage scientific analysis of the social organization of agriculture and food systems

II.B. Organization of the substantive content of the RC-40 session of the quadrennial meetings of the World Congress of Sociology

II.C. Organization of additional international meetings, including those that are held in conjunction with the World Congress and other scientific meetings

III ORGANIZATION OF THE JOURNAL

III.A. The International Journal of the Sociology of Agriculture and Food is the official scientific journal of RC-40.

III.B. The content of the journal shall reflect the scientific interests of the Research Committee, which is the sociological study of agriculture and food.

III.C. The editor(s) are appointed by the president in conjunction with the executive committee. The term of service for editors shall be negotiated in consultation with the executive committee.

III.D. The editors shall between them nominate a representative who is the main point of contact for, and liaison between, the journal and the executive committee.

III.E. The editors shall, in consultation with the executive committee, appoint an editorial assistant to take charge of the daily running of the journal. The editorial assistant shall have responsibility for co-ordinating the entire submission, reviewing and publication process; responding to contributors; liaising with reviewers; maintaining the website; ensuring that the editors are provided with regular updates on contributions and reviewing; and, assisting in the planning of future issues.

III.F. The president of RC-40, in consultation with the editors and the

members of the executive committee, shall appoint the members of the editorial board. The editorial board members consist of distinguished researchers in the sociology of agriculture and food and at the time of appointment must be members of RC-40.

III.G. The executive committee shall, where possible, provide financial support to ensure the ongoing viability of the journal.

III.H. The editors shall transmit regular reports on the journal to the RC-40 newsletter and shall present a report at the quadrennial business meeting.

III.I. The editors shall transmit a complete record of journal finances to the secretary of RC-40, who shall add those records to the yearly financial report that is to be submitted to the executive committee and the quadrennial report submitted to the business meeting.

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

IV.A. Amendments to the by-laws can be submitted by any member in good standing of the Research Committee.

IV.B. Amendments must be initially approved at RC-40 business meetings

IV.C. Amendments must then be ratified by mail ballot of members by a majority of those voting

Upcoming Events

Agriculture, Food & Human Values

Collaboration and Innovation Across the Food System

June 18-22, 2014

University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, USA

Information will be forthcoming at:

<http://www.uvm.edu/foodsystemsprogram>

Abstract deadline to be announced.

Rural Sociological Society

Re-centering Equity, Democracy, and the Commons:

Counter-narratives for Rural Transformation

July 30-August 3, 2014

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

<http://www.ruralsociology.us/>

Abstracts due March 3, 2014

RC40 Executive Council, 2010-2014

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From the Secretary

[1] About the electronic Mailing List of the RC-40:

If you would like to join this e-list or if you would like to share information among the members of the RC40 or our listserv, please contact the secretary, Carmen Bain, at cbain@iastate.edu

[2] About the membership fee:

Membership to the International Sociological Association (ISA) and RC40 covers a four year period. To apply for membership and see the fee structure, please go to http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb_i/index.htm

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