Letter from the President

At the Gothenburg ISA meeting in July, the term of the current RC SL Board and President will end and a new board and President will take the lead. What have we accomplished over the past 4 years?

Four meetings were organized: in 2007, the joint meeting in Berlin with the Law and Society Association (and other socio-legal associations); in 2008, the RCSL meeting in Milano, and the participation to the ISA mid-term meeting in Barcelona; in 2009, the RCSL meeting jointly organized with the 20th anniversary of the IISL in Oñati. Each of these meetings was very successful thanks to the strong involvement of the hosting institutions and organizers.

A new statute has been drafted, and will be submitted to members' approval after a very long negotiation process with the ISA. I take this opportunity to mention two points that are of particular relevance. The young scholar who receives the Podgórecki prize will now be invited to become a member of the Board (for a period of 2 years) in order to integrate younger members of our socio-legal community into the RCSL. Another important point is the clarification of the nomination procedure of WG chairs. Since WG chairs are Board members, we have been asked by the ISA to include some democratic rules for the choice of WG chairs in the statute.

We have developed a website, hosted by the ISCTE in Portugal, in order to develop a communication strategy for the RCSL. The RCSL Newsletter is published twice a year. Unfortunately, our project to develop an online international journal jointly with the Oñati Institute was unsuccessful, mainly for material considerations.

An important part of the research activity of the RCSL is made through Working Groups, which meet at RCSL meetings but have also their own research life and their own meetings. Working groups are regularly reviewed at Board meetings. They are lively organizations: they can be suppressed (one was withdrawn) or created. Two new working groups have been established, in “Law and migration” and in “Civil justice and Dispute resolution”; another will be proposed at the Gothenburg Board for approval. RCSL is an ISA Research Committee but its position is in some ways special due to its close link with the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law. The RCSL is involved with the Basque government in the management of the Institute. The IISL is an exceptional institution for many reasons, not least of which include the diversity of the students attending the master, the diversity of the professors, the number of scholars who want to come to Oñati for a workshop or for a stay, and the dedication of the Institute staff. It is really a unique institution that should be preserved and developed.

Using its experience and network the Institute, along with other socio-legal associations, has drafted a project for a World Consortium of Law and Society. The goal is to develop cooperation between associations and disciplines. The RCSL supports this initiative, which is interesting for both the socio-legal community and for the Institute. The precise modalities of this Consortium are still in discussion.

It was both an honour to be RCSL President, as well as a rewarding responsibility. Throughout my term, I was helped by the Board members, some of them providing significant support, and by an efficient secretary. I thank all of them very warmly. I look forward to welcoming the new President and Board in Gothenburg!

Anne Boigeol
RC SC President

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DONATIONS
The Research Committee is grateful to Jerzy Kwaśniewski, Pompeu Casanovas and Susanne Karstedt for their donations.

XVII – ISA World Congress of Sociology and 2010 RCSL ANNUAL MEETING

Sociology on the move
Gothenburg, 11-17 July 2010

Provisional programme
Session 1
Civil Justice and Dispute Resolution
Monday July 12th, 15.30 – 17.30
Chair: Masayuki Murayama, Meiji University, Japan
(ii) Carlos Silva Forné - The Social Use of Law in Mexico
(ii) Luis Javier Capote-Perez - The Evolution of the Spanish Family in Democracy through Spanish Family law decisions
(iii) Micha Batorowicz - Compensation and Trust: does the Law help Victims of Traffic Accidents
(iv) Paer Gustafsson - The Role of the Commercial Courts for Dispute Resolution during Russia’s Market Transition
(v) Ronggui Huang - Litigation as a Strategy of Housing Activism
(vi) Vladimir Vitovsky - Participatory Community Justice: A Third Way for Civil Justice and Dispute Resolution in Brazil

Session 2
Legal Profession 1
Monday July 12th, 17.45 – 19.45
Chair: Benoit Bastard, CNRS, France, benoit.bastard@free.fr
Discussant: Frederic Schoanaers
(i) Fernando Fontainha - A gambling framework to contest-like situations: the selection of French lawyers
(ii) Anna Zimdars - The social profile of pupil barristers at the English Bar

Session 3
Law and Politics I
Tuesday 13th July, 10.45 – 12.45
Chair: Angélica Cuellar Vázquez, UNAM, Mexico, cuellarv@servidor.unam.mx
(i) Paul Blokker - Legal revolutions, constitutionalism and civil democracy
(ii) Maureen Spencer - Managing access to justice: a Weberian analysis of the civil service’s impetus for secrecy
(iii) Mónica Zapico Berbeito - The principle of universal jurisdiction: legal mechanism or political tool?
(iv) Maria Fernanda Lombardi and Gabriela Nunes Ferreire - Redemocratization y ciudadanía
(v) Elida Lauris - Can there be facilitating circumstances to the judicialisation of politics?
(vi) Malgorzata Fuszara - Poland, Electoral gender quotas in post communist countries
(vii) Conceicao Gomes - Judiciary and Democracy; some topics for discussion

SESSION 4
TUESDAY JULY 13TH
17.45 – 19.45
BUSINESS MEETING – MEMBERS ASSEMBLY
Chair
Anne Boigeol (Part I)
Vittorio Olgiati (Part II)

Session 5
Wednesday 14th July, 10.45 – 12.45
Law and Migration 1
Chair: Arvind Agrawal, University of Rajasthan, India, arvind2004@rediffmail.com
(i) Alex Boso - Who Earns More? The Inconsistencies of the Spanish Migration Legal Framework
(ii) Susana Novick - Aspectos legales de los derechos de los inmigrantes en la Argentina: un nuevo paradigma de las políticas migratorias
(iii) Rashmi Jain - Resistance to Migration — a cause for concern
(iv) Vanina Modolo - Mercosur Migration Law: a study of residence agreements
(v) Anna Krajewska - Migrant Women and Economic Citizenship
Session 6
Sociology of Human Rights I
Wednesday 14th July, 15.30 – 17.30
Chair: Stephan Parmentier, Leuven University, stephan.parmentier@law.kuleuven.be
(i) Magdalena Duarte - Law and Violence against Women; a case study of Portugal
(ii) Cheng-yo Lin - Perceptions of historical prisoners' rights in Taiwan – from the Japanese colonial period to the present
(iii) Virginia Watson - Liberal Democracy and indigenous rights in settler-colonial societies: the sociological limits of liberal culturalism
(iv) Vittorio Cotesta - Human rights on the benching test of cultures
(v) Nadia Shapkina - Discourse of human rights and anti-trafficking organising in Russia and Ukraine
(vi) Roman Simonyan - Problems of persons deprived of Human Rights in Latvia and Estonia
(vii) Stephan Parmentier - Reparation and Reconciliation after Violent Conflicts through the Eyes of the Population

Session 7
Law and Migration II
Wednesday 14th July, 17.45 - 1945
Chair: Rashmi Jain, University of Rajasthan, India, rashmi.jn1@gmail.com
(i) Deirdre Howard-Wagner - Fortress Australia, zones of indistinction, exceptionalism: maritime interception, detention and expulsion of asylum seekers
(ii) Hideki Tarumoto - The Asian Migration Regime and Care Immigrants
(iii) Lucia MB de Oliveira - The Challenges Law is facing in Latin America
(iv) Diego Acosta - Integration Requirements in Europe: possible reasons and consequences
(v) Minna Vihoko - The questions concerning human trafficking, particularly trafficking from Russia and the Baltic countries to Finland
(vi) Gadendra Maheria - Migration, Human Rights and Globalisation
(vii) Mahendra Latiyal - Seasonal Migration in India

Session 8
Social System and Legal System I
Thursday 15th July, 10.45 – 12.45
Chair: Vittorio Olgiati, University of Macerata, Italy, vittorio.olgiati@unimc.it
(i) Daniela Piana - Judicial functions across structural borders
(ii) Lucan Konzen - Postcards of exclusion and places off the map
(iii) Musa Yusupov - Specificity of the development of legal and regional instability

Session 9
Law and Politics II
Thursday 15th July, 15.30 – 17.30
Chair: Angélica Cuellar Vázquez, UNAM, Mexico, cuellarv@servidor.unam.mx
(i) Iage Zendron Miola - El papel del derecho: respuestas legales y políticas del norte y el sur frente al la globalización de la industria papelera
(ii) Gesine Fuchs - Pay equity by law? Motives, outcomes and alternatives of strategic limitation in Europe
(iii) Mathew De Michele and Thomas Janoski - Three worlds of western punishment: a regime theory of cross-national incarceration rate variation
(iv) Fatma Sundal and Göskel Turan - Secularisation as disciplining religion: the idea of science and religion in Turkish political life
(v) Anna Konieczna-Purchala - 20 years after Communism: perceptions of the power relations in a local community
(vi) Nicole Hotchkiss and Shawna Smith - Legal distinctions between hate crime and counterterrorism legislation in the United States
(vii) Rafael Ostau - An Analysis of Workers' Organisations - a perspective from sociology of law - the end of the Colombian Union model, Analisis de la Organizacion Sindical dede la Sociologia Juridica – Fin del modelo juridico sindical colombiano

Session 10
Sociology of Human Rights II
Thursday 15th July, 17.45 – 19.45
Chair: Teresa Maneca, University of Coimbra and Michael Humphrey, University of Sydney
(i) Samir Naim Ahmed - The impact of globalisation on a Southern Cosmopolitan city (Cairo): a human rights perspective
(ii) Filipe Carreira Da Silva - Why Social Rights? on a social constructivist theory of human rights
(iii) Antonio Casimiro Ferreira and Marina Pessoa Henriques - Human rights in labour relations : a case study of Portugal
(iv) Teresa Maneca Lima - Labour rights are human rights: the case of occupational accidents in Portugal
(v) Badrinath Rao - Encountering social justice in a neo-liberal context: globalisation and the renegotiation of citizenship and the rule of law in India
Session 11
Social and Legal Systems II
Friday 16th July, 10.45 – 12.45
Chair: Germano Schwartz, Universidade Potiguar, UNP
(i) Iwan Sudjatmiko Gardono - The Constitution and the Representation of Majority Groups: Constitutional amendments as a means for social change
(ii) Oleg Komlik - Sociology of Law and Social System: A perspective on developments
(iii) Pawel Kocszewski - Children in ancient Mesopotamia Legal Collections: a social-legal approach
(iv) Hua-Sara Zhong - Gender and delinquency in legal and social systems
(v) Tomoyuki (Tom) Hashimoto - Presidency of the EU – a National or International Diplomatic Endeavour
(vi) Žiga Pirnat - Equal Opportunities in Diplomacy – the case of Slovenia
(vii) Johanna Kurczewska - Border Crossings as Encounters of Legal and Social Systems
(viii) Larry Barnett and Pietro Saitta - Societal Properties and Law on Same sex Non-marital partnerships and same sex marriages

Session 12
Legal Profession II
Friday 16th July, 15.30 – 17.30
Chair: Anne Boigeol ISP-CNRS, aboigeol@gmail.com
Discussant: Christophe Dubois, Université de Liège, Belgium
(i) Anne Boigeol - How to transform young law graduates into good judges aboigeol@gmail.com
(ii) Pedro Heitor, Barros Geraldo - Learning to Judge: judges in France
(iii) João Paulo Dias - Who are they? Insights into judges and public prosecutors in Portugal
(iv) Luca Verzelloni - Behind the desk of the judge: ethnographic research on the profession of Italian judges
(v) Po Jen Yap - Why Courts borrow
(vi) Cora Hisae Hagino - Legal Education and Sociology of Law in Portugal

Session 13
Law and Popular Culture
Friday 16th July, 17.45 – 19.45
Chair: Peter Robson, University of Strathclyde, Scotland, UK, peter.robson@strath.ac.uk
(i) Nancy Marder - Judging Judy and Other Television Judges
(ii) Penny English - The Portable Antiquities Scheme and Nighthawking
(iii) Volkmar Gessner - Transparency of Courts – Comparing Court Websites Gessner@uni-bremen.de
(iv) Peter Robson - Judges on the Screen – issues in trans-cultural historical investigations
(v) Matias Cordero - The voice of the child and his/her right to play
(vi) Issi Rosen-Zvi - Detective Stories and the popular image of crime and illegality

X NATIONAL MEETING ON SOCIOLOGY OF LAW - X CONGRESO NACIONAL DE SOCIOLOGÍA JURÍDICA
Córdoba, Argentina, 2010

The X Congreso Nacional de Sociología Jurídica, Legality, Legitimacy and the Law. Social Confrontations about the Law was held in Córdoba, Argentina on November 12-14, 2009. It was organised by the Sociedad Argentina de Sociología Jurídica (SASJu) and the Universidad Nacional de Córdoba (UNC). Sessions took place in the new building of the historic Faculty of Law and Social Sciences of the UNC and celebrations in the colonial buildings of the city.

Accepted papers were distributed and presented in 11 sessions (see www.sasju.org.ar). Three plenary sessions were held: the first on Research priorities in the socio-legal field in Latin America; the second on Administration of Justice in Latin America; the third plenary session was devoted to the presentation of
books on several socio-legal subjects, published in 2009 by researchers associated to SASJu.

The special session Justice and Law facing glocalised conflicts was organised for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law. All the Latin-American students of the Master programme since its creation and the visitors of the last five years were invited to participate. The response was highly positive. About thirty abstracts were received and twenty three participants attended the session and presented their papers. Many other students and visitors who could not attend the meeting contacted the organisers of the session to congratulate them on the idea.

The Oñati session was an excellent opportunity for encountering and invigorating the links among participants in different activities organised by the Institute along the years, as well as for informing other attendants about the Institute’s activities and scholarly offerings.

A total number of 155 papers were sent to the organisers of the X Meeting and 125 of them presented in the eleven sessions. The initial number of registered participants was 269, with a final number of 177 attendants. Most of them came from Argentina (75%), although the presence of scholars of other nationalities continues to increase, mostly from other Latin American countries and Spain: Brazil (14%), México (5%), Colombia and Spain (2,6% each one) and 3% from other LA countries.

The increasing presence of the region gave grounds for the decision to organise a joint meeting in 2010: the XI National and the I Latin American Meeting on Sociology of Law, as well as an International Colloquium on Multiculturalism, Identity and Law. These events, organised by the SASJu and the Universidad of Buenos Aires (UBA), will be held on the 7-9 of October, 2010 in Buenos Aires. For more information about SASJu and the 2009-2010 Meetings see www.sasju.org.ar

WORKING GROUP FOR COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF LEGAL PROFESSIONS

Meeting at GIF sur Yvette

JULY 8-10 2010

The next meeting of the Working Group on Comparative Studies of Legal Profession will take place from JULY 8 (IN THE MORNING) TO JULY 10 (DEPARTURE), 2010 at Gif-sur-Yvette, in the south of Paris, France. The French Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique runs a conference centre there. For more information please visit the link below: http://www.dr4.cnrs.fr/delegation/credits/legendes_photos1.pdf

The dates of the meeting were chosen to facilitate things for colleagues intending to attend the 2010 ISA Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden (July 11-17): http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/

Contact: Emmanuel.lazega@dauphine.fr, Lise.Mounier@ens.fr

1- Transportation:
You can reach Gif sur Yvette by RER B - http://www.transilien.com/web-site - from Charles de Gaulle airport (direct train 1.15), from Orly Airport (1.00), from the center of Paris (Chatelet-Les Halles, Luxembourg, Denfert Rochereau etc. 30mn).

2- Preliminary program (subgroups and sessions)

S1 and S1-A -Ethics, Deontology, 1 plenary session, 1 session
S2-Family, policy and the Law, 2 sessions
S3- International lawyering, 1 session
S4-Judiciary, 1 session
S5- Large law firms, 1 session
S7-Legal aid and legal professions, 2 sessions
S8-Legal Education, 3 sessions
S9- Legal professional values and identities, 2 sessions
S10- Political liberalism, 1 session
S12-Women/Gender in Legal Professions, 3 sessions
S13-S14 Join session, Internationalization of norms, Social control of business, 1 session
S15- Cultural history of law, 1 session

RESEARCH ON EXPROPRIATIONS IN LATIN AMERICAN CITIES

The use of power to expropriate land for different purposes has become a major source of conflict in Latin American cities. These conflicts deal not only with property interests that block projects meant to benefit urban society as a whole, but also social resistance towards projects that have lost the appeal of other times (airports, highways). These issues have been at the centre of urban politics over the past decade. In some cases, as in Sao Paulo, judges have awarded exorbitant compensations to property owners, resulting in a crisis of their own legitimacy; in others, legal systems have not been able to contain conflicts, which have thus been “solved” through extra-legal mechanisms, such as in Mexico City. In all cases, the new structure of constitutional states after the so-called transition to democracy in the region, has played a major role – municipalities have become new actors, judges are playing new roles, new forms of access to justice have produced new forms of judicial activity, and so on. This has resulted in expropriation conflicts become an ideal “laboratory” to observe changes in the relationship between law, the state and private property.

In response to those developments, the Working Group on Law and Urban Space of the RCSL has
been functioning as the centre of a research network for the last four years. It has been looking at expropriations in Latin American cities. Papers on that subject were presented in the Milano and Berlin RCSL Conferences (2007-2008). Now, participants agree on the fact that our research is mature enough to be integrated into a collective book. The group has gained a reputation in socio-legal urban research since the mid-nineties. IRGLUS (International Research Group on Law and Urban Space) and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (LILP), a prestigious institution in the field of urban research, based in Cambridge, Mass. have funded most of our research. This year LILP is supporting the edition of the book, as well as two workshops to be held in Latin America this year to discuss the contributions of the different participants.

The group includes 13 researchers who will analyse, within the same methodological framework, conflicts over expropriations in six cities: Bogotá, Buenos Aires, Caracas, Mexico, Quito and Sao Paulo. Even though most legal systems in the region bear the mark of a ‘post-authoritarian’ condition, the nature of the conflicts that arise from expropriations, as well as the way legal systems cope (or not) with them, varies enormously. Thus, this book will endeavour to illustrate this diversity, within a common analytical framework.

Since the Group will be working through workshops in Latin America, it will not be present in Gothenburg this July. However, we are committed to produce a new book that will bear the mark of cooperation between urban research in Latin America and socio-legal research in the RCSL.

Antonio Azuela (IRGLUS Coordinator)

NEWS

Concepts of Justice in Legal Research
An International Conference and PhD Workshop Organized by Retfærd

Thursday 16 September - Friday 17 September 2010

Host: University of Southern Denmark, Campusvej 55, Odense, Denmark
Keynote Speakers: Professor Gunther Teubner, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main
Professor Melanie Williams, University of Exeter

Retfærd: Nordic Journal of Law and Justice is pleased to invite you to a two-day international workshop, and a recognized PhD course, for senior researchers and postgraduate students, hosted by the University of Southern Denmark. This multidisciplinary workshop will examine the role of justice in legal research, in general, and the relationship between positive law and justice, in particular.

The focus of this workshop is motivated by the increasing marginalization of the concept of justice in legal research. The workshop aims at critically exploring and discussing the possibility of applying the empirical tools of social sciences to the study of justice. It also hopes to encourage debate and reflection on the relationship between jurisprudence and legal sociology, on the one hand, and law and social sciences, on the other. Legal realism considers concepts such as justice and rights as linguistic constructs that do not correspond with any tangible phenomena in the ‘real’ world. Within the doctrinal studies of law, the sharp distinction between legal science and legal politics bears witness to the difficulties of incorporating normative standpoints in legal research. Only legal philosophy and (political) philosophy in general continue to promote discussions concerning the concept of justice and its role in legal systems.

PhD students and early career researchers are welcome to present papers at the workshop. Information about the conference is posted at http://www.retfærd.org/conference2010

For further information please contact Dr. Ole Hammerslev ohv@sam.sdu.dk

Exploring the 'Socio' of Socio-Legal Studies – Socio-Legal Studies Association One-Day Conference

Date: Wednesday, 3 November 2010
Venue: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London (UK) - Conference organiser: Dermot Feenan, University of Ulster

Keynote Speaker
Susan S. Silbey, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, MIT, USA; co-author of The Common Place of Law: Stories from Everyday Life (with Patricia Ewick); former editor of Studies in Law, Politics and Society and the Law and Society Review.

Confirmed invited speakers:
Professor Nicola Lacey, LSE, and Professor John Clarke, Open University (UK).

Aims: The conference will provide an opportunity to explore the meanings and implications of the ‘socio’ aspect of socio-legal studies, and to lay out pathways for future study.

Conference registration: details (including fees) will be confirmed by June 2010 via the conference website: http://www.kent.ac.uk/nslsa/content/view/253/282/
Registration deadline: 1 October 2010.
NEWS FROM OÑATI

The International Master in Sociology of Law is an accredited Master of Arts of the University of the Basque Country and the Università degli Studi di Milano and conforms to the criteria agreed in the Bologna process. This degree awards 60 ECTS postgraduate credits.

Master 2010/11:
This year, there will be around 20 students from 14 countries (Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Nepal, Peru, Sierra Leone, Spain), who will stay in Oñati from September 2010 till the beginning of April 2011.

Master 2011/12:
The courses for the 2011/12 Master's Programme are the following ones:
Theories and Approaches to the Sociology of Law
Socio-Legal Research Theory and Practice: Qualitative Methods
Socio-Legal Research Theory and Practice: Quantitative Methods
Comparative Legal Cultures & Non-Western Law in a Comparative Framework
Socio-Legal Approaches to Rights
The Sociology of Litigation and Adjudication
Comparative & International Criminology
Law in Global Governance
Legal Professions
Law and Economic Regulation
New Issues in Socio-Legal Studies
Anthropology of Law & Legal Pluralism
Thesis Seminar & Special Topics

The Deadline to receive applications for the 2011/12 Master's Programme is 19th February 2011. For more information: susana@iisj.es or http://www.iisj.es

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(RCSL Secretary)

Founding members:
William Evan and Adam Podgórecki (†)

NEXT ISSUE OF THE RCSL NEWSLETTER

The next issue of the RCSL newsletter will be published in November 2010. You are welcome to submit any material that is related to socio-legal research and which might be of interest for our members. The next issue will include short items (400-500 words), information about conferences, seminars and workshops, brief presentations of collaborative research projects, debates on issues related to teaching, information about courses, recent or forthcoming publications, notices on research funds, prizes and awards. The deadline to submit an item is October 15, 2010. Please write to vittorio.olgiati@unimc.it