Newsletter

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Editors: Francesca Donati and Alicia Domínguez

RC03 Board (2023-2027)

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Newsletter Editors Francesca Donati and Alicia Domínguez

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Letter from the President

Dear Members of the Committee on Community Research,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and high spirits. It is with immense gratitude and a deep sense of responsibility that I write to you today as the newly elected President of the Committee on Community Research. I am truly honoured to serve in this capacity and look forward to a productive and collaborative tenure with each and every one of you.

First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to all of you for entrusting me with this leadership role. The Committee on Community Research plays a crucial part in advancing our understanding of the issues that affect communities, and I am eager to work alongside such a dedicated and talented group of individuals.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to our outgoing President, Clemente J. Navarro. Clemente has led our committee with dedication and distinction, and we owe them a debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts in advancing the cause of community research. His leadership has been exemplary, and I am committed to building upon the strong foundation he has laid.

I must also express my deep appreciation to Matt Patterson who served as the editor of our committee’s newsletter. Matt has consistently maintained the highest standards in crafting and curating the content of our newsletter, ensuring that it is a valuable resource for our members. His dedication and commitment to excellence have been instrumental in enhancing the communication.

My thanks go also to other board members who have served tirelessly to steer our committee through various challenges and successes. Your contributions have been invaluable.

I would also like to congratulate the newly-elected board members on their election for the term 2023-2027: the Vice-president Matt Patterson, Secretary Johan Zaaiman, and board members: Wonho Jang, Cristina Mateos Mora, Emma Porio and Maria Jesus Rodriguez Garcia. I am delighted to have you as valuable members of our team. I extend a warm welcome to Francesca Donati and Alicia Dominguez Gonzalez who will take care of the newsletter and social media. Congratulations on joining our board! I am eager to collaborate closely with each of you as we work together to fulfil our mission and I look forward to your contributions!

(Continued on the next page)
Letter from the President (Continued)

As we embark on this journey, I would like to share my vision for our committee over the coming years. Here are some of the key objectives I intend to pursue during my tenure:

1. Promoting Collaborative Research: I believe in the power of collaboration. We will encourage our members to work together, share their expertise, and engage with external partners to address pressing community issues and apply for research grants.

2. Dissemination and Outreach: It is vital that our research findings reach the communities they are meant to benefit. We will prioritize effective communication and outreach strategies to ensure that our research has a real-world impact.

3. Attracting New Members: We will actively work on expanding our membership base, bringing in fresh perspectives and expertise to enrich our committee's capabilities and broaden our impact.

4. Capacity Building: We will look for opportunities for training and skill development programs for our members to ensure that our committee remains at the forefront of community research methodologies and practices.

5. Strengthening Partnerships: We will seek to build strong partnerships with community organizations, governmental bodies, and academia to enhance the quality and scope of our research efforts.

In the coming weeks, I will be reaching out to you to schedule meetings to discuss your insights, expectations, and how we can collaborate effectively. Your perspectives and expertise are invaluable, and I am committed to creating an environment where your voices are heard.

This is an exciting time for our committee, and I am eager to work together to achieve our shared goals. The success of our mission relies on the collective efforts of each member, and I am confident that together we can make a significant and lasting impact.

Thank you once again for your trust and support. I am looking forward to a productive and fulfilling term as President, and I can't wait to begin this journey with all of you.

Please feel free to reach out to me at marta.a.klekotko@gmail.com or marta.klekotko@us.edu.pl if you have any questions or suggestions.

Yours sincerely,
Marta Klekotko
President of the RC03

Contacts

New Website: RC03 has a new, revamped website. You can find it at: https://www.upo.es/cspl/rc03-isa/isa/

Please send future announcements to adomgon1@upo.es or f.donati12@campus.unimib.it
XX ISA World Congress of Sociology

REPORT FROM MELBOURNE

By Matt Patterson, University of Calgary

The 20th World Congress of Sociology was held by the ISA in Melbourne, Australia from June 25th to July 1st. Though Congresses are typically held every four years, it had been five years since the ISA met as a whole, due to a delay caused by the COVID19 pandemic.

RC03 was well represented at the Congress with 16 sessions, including joint sessions with other RCs. Among the many topics covered in these sessions included urban politics and political movements, research methods and ethics, the arts and arts institutions in communities, public health and quality of life, and issues of environmental management and sustainability.

As this was the first Congress of Sociology to be held in Australia, participation was strong particularly among scholars in the Global South. In fact, the presenters at RC03 sessions represented 25 countries, including: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Columbia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Iceland, India, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, the UK, and the USA. Moreover, sessions were held in both English and Spanish.

Participation was also increased by the option to hold sessions in person, online, or in a hybrid format.

For urban and community sociologists, the large and diverse city of Melbourne was a particularly interesting location. Known for its network of bustling, vibrant alleyways, extensive tram system, and redeveloped riverfront, the city allowed Congress participants to engage in urban strolling and people watching.

In fact, the specific buildings in which the Congress took place – the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and the Crown Casino and Hotel complex – have been the subject of urban sociological research. Those wishing to know the background of these buildings and the larger riverfront redevelopment process can learn more by reading Leonie Sandercock and Kim Dovey’s 2002 article “Pleasure, Politics, and the ‘Public Interest’: Melbourne’s Riverscape Revitalization” in the Journal of the American Planning Association (Vol. 68, No. 2, Pp. 151–164).

Given the fruitful, stimulating sessions in Melbourne, we look forward to reconvening in 2027 in Gwangju, South Korea for the 21st ISA World Congress.
**RC03 Membership Publications**


