



ESA MONTHLY BULLETIN – SEPTEMBER 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- **Conferences/Calls for Papers**

- Conference Announcement: BSA Diaspora, Migration and Transnationalism (DMT) Study Group Symposium - College Court, University of Leicester, Thursday 30 October 2014.
- Call for Stream Proposals: Conference WORK 2015 – New Meanings of Work - 19-21 August 2015, Turku, Finland.
- Call for Papers: ISSA 2015 World Congress of Sociology of Sport, 50th Anniversary Celebration - The Sociological Lens and the Wellbeing of Sport – Paris, 9-12, June 2015.
- Call for Papers: The 9th European Feminist Research Conference - Sex & Capital - University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland, 3-6 June, 2015.
- Call for Papers: Interim Conference - Professions, Bonds and Boundaries: Visioning a globalising, managed and inclusive professionalism - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano, Italy, 19-21 March 2015.
- Call for Papers: ESREA – European Society for Research on the Education of Adults Life History and Biography Network - Can stories make a difference in a troubled world? Where, when, how? Life-based and art-based research: exploring their collective, social and political potential - Milano, Italy, 5-8 March 2015.
- Call for presentations and abstract submissions: General Online Research conference (GOR 15), Cologne, Germany, 18-20 March 2015.
- Call for Papers: 19th World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics: WMSCI 2015, Orlando, Florida, USA, July 12 - 15, 2015.
- Call for contributions to forthcoming special issues: Social Inclusion - Special Issue “Educating Nomadic People” (ed., Caroline Dyer) – Call for Abstracts: 5 December 2014.

- **Opportunities**

- The most recent job offers are available in the ESA Jobs Bourse:
<http://www.europeansociology.org/jobs.html>

CONFERENCES/CALLS FOR PAPERS

Conference Announcement

BSA Diaspora, Migration and Transnationalism (DMT) Study Group Symposium hosted by the University of Leicester

“We are here because you were there”: Immigrants’ Responses to the Rise of Anti-Immigrant Discourses in Britain’

Thursday 30 October 2014, 10am-6pm

College Court, University of Leicester

College Court Travel Leaflet

The symposium will bring immigrant organisations, advocacy groups, community associations and leading British academics on migration together in order to increase not only our understanding of the current anxieties around migration but also how the immigrants themselves make sense of, and deal with, such anxieties and anti-immigration discourses and policies. Only a few years ago Britain’s diversity was an essential aspect of our Olympic bid. We need to understand not only the ‘backlash’ to this celebration of diversity but also how those who are seen as ‘problem populations’ in the UK respond to this backlash.

In the 1970s postcolonial ‘immigrants’ drew attention to Britain’s economic requirements and colonial past and used the phrase ‘we are here because you were there’ to remind Britain of its historical, economic and social ties. Political campaigns also challenged the way the white poor were pitted against the immigrant poor. Are the new ‘immigrants’ building on such assertive strategies and political consciousness? Are they establishing solidarity zones across their community associations and developing collective responses, including with excluded groups in the UK? Or, are their responses ‘individualistic’ and defensive? Is it possible to render visible the economic requirements and other historical and political ties at work in the movement of recent ‘immigrants’ into the UK and hence increase an understanding of our interconnected histories and present?

The symposium will examine key issues which shape both academic and political debates on migration.

This symposium will launch the BSA’s Diaspora, Migration and Transnationalism (DMT) Study Group.

PROGRAMME

9.00-10.00: Registration (tea and coffee)

10.00-12.30: **PANEL 1: Anti-Immigrant Discourses and Resistance Strategies**

Ms Zrinka Bralo, Migrant and Refugee Communities Forum

Dr Jonathan Darling, University of Manchester

Dr Lisa Doyle, Refugee Council

Dr Pierre Monforte, University of Leicester

Ms Nazek Ramadan, Migrant Voice

Dr Barbara Samaluk, University of Greenwich

12.30-1.30: Lunch

1.30-3.30: PANEL 2: Immigrant Activism

Dr Leah Bassel, University of Leicester
Ms Rita Chadha, RAMFEL
Ms Ruth Grove-White, Migrants' Rights Network
Ms Pam Inder, Leicester City of Sanctuary
Dr Hannah Jones, University of Warwick
Ms Makbule Gunes, Councillor, Haringey, London
Dr Davide Pero, University of Nottingham

3.30-4.00: tea and coffee

4.00-6.00: PANEL 3: Key Issues on Migration and Diversity Today

Professor Bridget Anderson, University of Oxford
Dr David Bartram, University of Leicester
Professor Alice Bloch, University of Manchester
Dr Karim Murji, The Open University
Professor Jenny Phillimore, University of Birmingham TBC
Hon. Professor Surinder Sharma, Leicester Race Equality Council

Registration Information

BSA member £40 BSA member student £30
BSA non-member £50 BSA non-member student £35
Registrations received after 1 October will incur a £10 late registration fee.
Registration costs include lunch, coffee and refreshments. We have limited capacity hence registrations are on a first-come first-served basis.

Please register online at:

<http://portal.britsoc.co.uk/public/event/eventBooking.aspx?id=EVT10388>

Please direct any academic enquiries to Ipek Demir: id34@le.ac.uk

For administrative issues please contact the BSA Events Team: events@britsoc.org.uk

Call for Stream Proposals

Conference WORK 2015 – New Meanings of Work

19-21 August 2015

Turku, Finland

The first conference on research on WORK2013 in Turku brought together over 200 researchers with four excellent keynote sessions and paper streams with 160 presentations, all of which opened out fruitful discussions and debate.

We invite you to the Second International Interdisciplinary Conference on Research on Work, "**Work2015 - New Meanings of Work**", 19 - 21 August, Turku, Finland. The conference will be organized by TCLS, Turku School of Economics, University of Turku.

The **New Meanings of Work** seeks its justification not only from the changes in the work itself but from the global economic crisis and ongoing turbulence. These economic and societal changes are connected to and change various forms of work and modes of working and ways of living that are yet to be fully mapped and explored.

In addition to the ongoing global economic crisis and its effects, longer term processes have shifted the contours and boundaries of work and working in ways which demand new understandings, both theoretically and empirically. These changes include, but are by no means limited to:

- new forms of attachment to work
- changing types, forms and sites of work
- shifts to working life patterns, including extensions to working lives
- the expansion of wagelessness
- the emergence of indebted labour as a generalized condition
- the reconfiguring of working time
- transformations to working capacities and competencies and shifts in their value and valuation
- changing forms of working contracts and working agreements
- new forms of social suffering attached to work and working
- demands for perpetual employability and work availability
- the enrolment of whole of the employee's life in work in the name of enhanced productivity
- global and local transformations in the regulation of labour.

The several questions outlined above concern the changing role and place of work and labour in contemporary socio-economic formations. These questions include those relating to the very definition of work as well as its changing meanings.

It is against this background that this conference seeks to explore **New Meanings of Work**. It does so from a variety of perspectives and disciplinary approaches, including approaches associated with critical labour studies, new economic sociology, feminist theory, post-colonial studies, social and cultural theory, sociology, cultural studies, anthropology, philosophy, critical health studies and gender studies.

The call for new stream proposals for the Conference is open at <http://www.utu.fi/work2015> until 1 October. The call for abstracts will be announced and opened at the same webpage in October 2014.

[We hope to see you in Turku in August 2015!](#)

On behalf of the organizing committee,

Anne Kovalainen, chair

Academy professor

University of Turku

work2015@utu.fi

Call for Papers

ISSA 2015 World Congress of Sociology of Sport

50th Anniversary Celebration

The Sociological Lens and the Wellbeing of Sport, 9-12, June, Paris

In June 2015, the International Sociology of Sport Association (ISSA) will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Paris Descartes, Sorbonne Paris Cité university's "Techniques et Enjeux du Corps" (EA 3625) team has the honour of organising this ISSA congress, which will have as its theme *The Sociological Lens and the Wellbeing of Sport*, between the 9th and the 12th of June. This congress' aim is twofold: first of all, to gather together sociologists of sport around the notion of wellbeing in order to exchange new thoughts and share work in this field. The congress will allow common interests linked to this theme to emerge, teams from different countries to put in place research projects, and international scientific knowledge in human and social sciences to spread. Moreover, the ISSA's 50th anniversary will be the occasion to encourage a dialogue about the sociology of sport's dynamism for the past 50 years. This congress is organised with the support of the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Paris-Nord, the Caisse Nationale de Solidarité pour l'Autonomie, the Institut National Supérieur de formation et de recherche pour l'Education des jeunes Handicapés et les Enseignements Adaptés (INS HEA) and its Grhapes research team ((EA 7287), the Paris Descartes IUT's social communication lab as well as the Lausanne university, among others.

The call for papers is available on the following website: <http://www.issa2015.org/>

Call for Papers

The 9th European Feminist Research Conference

-Sex & Capital, 3-6 June, 2015

University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland

Recent economic crises and their worldwide impacts have highlighted the relationship between global politics and the economy. Indeed, economic discourses reign supreme and it looks like capitalism has won, which raises feminist concern. The power of economics has become palpable: the scramble for natural resources has put the multi-ethnic Arctic on centre stage; new sectors – education and care among them - are being commercialized; and trafficking in women and the consumption and commodification of sexed bodies appear in new, intensified forms. Then again, issues that feminist research and politics have promoted are now realities for a large number of women: multicultural life, diversification of family forms and sexual identities, and the women's economy. Despite this progress, the need for equality politics and feminist activism has not diminished.

The 9th European Feminist Research Conference Sex & Capital calls for papers and posters. There are nine thematic strands, of which we kindly ask you to pick up one for your abstract (the link to the strand descriptions: <http://www.ulapland.fi/InEnglish/About-us/News--Events/Events/Events-2015/EFRC-2015/Strands>). Submitted abstracts will be peer reviewed by at least two experts. The deadline for abstracts is 3 November 2014. Notification of acceptance will be sent to corresponding authors not later than 10 January 2015.

For more information, see: www.ulapland.fi/efrc2015

Link to the abstract submission:

<https://lapland.conference-services.net/authorlogin.asp?conferenceID=4365&language=en-uk>

Hope to see you all in the conference!

Organisers:

ATGENDER - The European Association for Gender Research, Education and Documentation
University of Lapland

Call for Papers

Interim Conference

Professions, Bonds and Boundaries:

Visioning a globalising, managed and inclusive professionalism

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano, Italy

19-21 March 2015

Professions are bound to societal developments as policy experts, organisational managers, and providers of a wide range of services from teachers, doctors and carers to social workers and others. While they are serving as 'connecting tie' between the state and its citizens and between organisations, professionalism has also all too often been a host for 'social exclusion' and 'boundary work'. Currently, societies are facing many changes that may impact in the professions and re-design the bonds, calling for a more inclusive professionalism. Here, the Expo 2015 in Milan demonstrates how the global economy is increasingly becoming a single market, especially for high-skilled workers like professionals; social media may furthermore accelerate the creation of new bonds across the globe. At the same time, new emergent global labour markets, new connections between management and professionalism and the overall changing social composition of the professions, including gender and ethnic dimensions, may all foster re-stratification processes and the 'making' and 'unmaking' of boundaries. This Interim Conference addresses these issues and seeks to further the debates into visionary models of professionalism.

Hosted by the Catholic University Milan beautifully located in the City Centre, the Conference is organised by Lara Maestriperi, Ivana Pais and Michela Bolis.

The **Call for Papers** will close **30 September 2014**. Please visit the conference website www.unicatt.it/ISARC52 for further information and guidelines for abstract submission; [abstracts must be submitted to isa.rc52@unicatt.it](mailto:abstracts_must_be_submitted_to_isa.rc52@unicatt.it) and must be prepared according to the [guidelines](#).

Sessions

S1 Professions, Exclusions and Global Labour Markets

Debby Bonnin and Shaun Ruggunan, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa

This session seeks to put the exclusions around race and nationality (and its intersections with gender, religion and other markers of identity) at the forefront of the discussions around the creation of a single global labour market. It hopes to problematize the idea of a global labour market by examining the ways in which the changing social composition of the professions 're-stratify' professions creating new boundaries of inclusion and exclusion. It also hopes to provide an understanding of how exclusionary and inclusionary patterns (especially those related to issues of identity) shape professional milieus and

professional labour markets globally. The session also aims to understand the variety of ways in which the unique contexts of the global South intersects with those of the global North and the impacts of these intersections for professionals that operate in a single global labour market. This session welcomes empirical and theoretical papers that address any of the above themes.

S2 Public Sector Governance and Professionalism: Organizational Practices and Contexts in a Cross-national Perspective

Viola Burau, University of Aarhus, Denmark

Public sector governance increasingly combines management and professional self-governance and this takes diverse forms. Public sector governance draws on elements of hierarchy and market in addition to professionalism, and the three are combined in multiple ways. Public sector governance is also highly context dependent and reflects the characteristics of specific organizations together with broader, country specific institutional contexts. Taken together, this gives the interconnections between public sector governance and professionalism a strongly hybrid and context specific character. The session is looking for contributions, which analyse how public governance relates to professionalism and which critically reflect on what difference specific organisational as well as national contexts make. The session welcomes case studies from a wide range of different public sectors, such as culture, transport, education, employment services as well as health and social care. The session also encourages contributions originating from different regions of the globe.

S3 The Role of Knowledge in Professional Development

Teresa Carvalho, University of Aveiro, Portugal

Knowledge has always been a fundamental element in the analysis of professions. It is widely recognised in the literature that the constitution of a formal body of knowledge, possession of which is certified by academic and professional credentials, is key to a profession exercising a monopoly over specific jurisdictional areas within the social division of labour. The requisite to acquire and update knowledge is equally fundamental in maintaining professional autonomy. Within the Knowledge Society framework, the way knowledge is produced and disseminated has also undergone changes. In this session we invite researchers to submit papers reflecting on the changing role of knowledge in promoting social closure and 'boundary work'. What is the relevance of a specific body of knowledge and skills to develop a profession? What is the role of knowledge in the globalization of learning and in the globalization of professional practices and labour markets?

S4 Professions and Environmental Challenges: Re-configuring Skills beyond Professional Fields and Boundaries

Mirella Giannini and Dario Minervini, University 'Federico II' of Naples, Italy

In the political and economic area, the expertise has taken an increasingly strategic role in processes facing the environmental issues, as climate change or natural resources scarcity at a global level. Actually, relational networks connecting different types of expertise and professional fields are rising. This is the ground of the unstable negotiations between traditional legitimated professions and new 'green' occupations claiming social and professional recognition because of their specific skills. Recent studies show that the multidimensional concept of environmental sustainability is embedded within specific social constructions carried on between different fields of professional jurisdiction. They also illustrate how in that field experts and professionals integrate the procedures of technical rationality and the ethic dimension of environmental safeguard in the complex socio-political processes of the eco-innovation. This session welcomes theoretical/empirical contributions highlighting the construction, integration, hybridising of skills and expertise, as well as the boundary work in establishing new 'green professions'.

S5 Professionals and Citizen Relations

Lars Thorup Larsen, Aarhus University, Denmark

Professionals develop and maintain boundaries not only in relation to the state and to competing occupations, but also in their relationship with citizens. Whether in the form of patients, clients, students, customers or inmates, professionals constantly interact with citizens and thereby exercise their professionalism through citizen relations. In the theoretical literature, a truly 'professional' relationship with citizens may on one hand imply a professional distance or what Parsons termed 'disinterestedness', but on the other hand also refer to an almost intimate relation with no third parties allowed. Professional-citizen relations may also be subject to change, if for instance citizens begin to

challenge professional authority. This session invites papers that reflect on citizen relations in connection with professionalism as well as studies of how professionalism may vary or change in the face of different groups of citizens.

S6 Boundary Work, Knowledge Workers and Professionals in the Cities of Global Events

Annalisa Murgia, University of Trento and Emiliana Armano, University of Milan, Italy

Work in the knowledge economy is increasingly situated and intertwined with metropolitan relationships. The centrality of the 'urban world' – where economic rents and profits are blended – and the emerging paradigm of the smart city, based on creativity, knowledge and sustainable growth, underlie new processes of selective and differentiated inclusion. In this context, well represented by the EXPO 2015 in Milan, knowledge workers are invested with processes of precarization that reveal new hierarchies and ambivalences. Old and new pillaging practices appear to be contiguous to the knowledge professions: on the one hand, the misappropriation and the marketization of public goods (spaces, services, welfare), on the other, the diffusion of professional experiences that translate mostly in unpaid and voluntary work, and in the 'spontaneous' valorization of social cooperation. Through contributions that articulate theoretical-interpretive aspects with empirical and situated reflections, the session will explore these critical issues with particular attention to the processes of subjectivation in the knowledge professions and to the experiences of resilience and conflict within this context.

S7 Professions without Borders: 'Mission Impossible' or the Future?

Emmanuele Pavolini, University of Macerata, Italy and Ellen Kuhlmann, TU University Dortmund, Germany

Different trends are at work in the professional sector. We can observe an expansion of professional boundaries within a single discipline or new forms of substitution between disciplines, but also a diffusion of hybrids, team-workers, and border-crossers. This session focuses on which are the most likely scenarios for the future of professions. Are there 'best practice' examples of interdisciplinary professional work-teams, of transdisciplinary education and training, of new emergent professions 'in-between' professional groups, and of new more inclusive forms of professionalism? What are the challenges of a move towards borderless professions? What are the benefits and for whom? Are there signs of the remaking of traditional boundaries and barriers between professions? We invite papers that address these issues in cross-country comparative or transdisciplinary perspective, but will also consider in-depth research in a single field or country.

S8 Professions, Regulation and Models of Professionalism: Normative Frames of Reference at Work in Unequal Global Times – Complementary Views Europe-Latin America

Susana Peñalva, National University of San Martín (UNSAM), Buenos Aires, Argentina and Christian Azais, University of Picardie Jules Verne, France

As relevant social issues of our research agenda, work and welfare have evolved following the great transformation of economies and societies over the last 40 years. The interest in professional groups arises from the position acquired by professions in a society where industrial workers' employment has been challenged by a large service-based economy. Within European countries, powerful professional groups play a crucial role in the public and the private sector. Therefore, representation and regulation crisis, recurrent for some professions (in France for the physicians), have been analyzed as a societal issue. In the Anglo-Saxon environment, professions have been considered from the viewpoint of regulation as well as taking into account the hierarchical division within professional groups –and the potential impact of this 'stratification' in terms of inequalities. Social scientists working on Latin-America are indeed interested in new theoretical approaches, such as the notion of 'hybridization' in some professional fields of 'emerging countries', and within 'social professions', such as social work and their 'targeted' public. This session aims to open a dialog at the crossroads of sociology of work and sociology of professions. We invite papers that address issues of regulation processes and professionalism, hierarchy and marginality, and institutional processes of management that may create new inequalities.

S9 Virtuous Professionalism: Exploring Good Practice for the Future

Mike Saks, University Campus Suffolk, United Kingdom

Professions have recently been much criticised for their frailties – including acting as self-interested monopolies and agents of the powerful, to the prejudice of clients and the public. But now the bonds and boundaries of professionalism are rapidly changing with, amongst other things, globalisation, new

relationships with management and greater user involvement in a difficult economic climate. Given the role of professions as key players in social development, papers are invited for this session exploring examples of professional good practice going forward in specific fields in national or cross-national settings – covering areas such as increasing inclusivity, inter-professionalism and personalisation. This raises a number of related methodological, philosophical and practical issues on which papers are also invited. Against what criteria might we judge professional good practice and why? And how far and in what ways can sociologists legitimately become involved in the policy process in promoting positive future visions of professionalism?

S10 Inclusive Exclusiveness? New Moral Communities within and between Professions

Christiane Schnell, Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany

Professional groups have been traditionally interpreted mainly as homogenous social collectives. Though, on the backdrop of structural changes in the field of professional work the heteronomy of professional groups came to the fore. New specializations, generational differences, new dimensions of internal competition due to market forces, just to mention some reasons, might play a role here. On the other hand, new bonds within professional sub-groups are observed, and this may happen even within more interdisciplinary constellations. Contributions to this session shall provide empirical examples and/or theoretical interpretations of new professional or (following Durkheim) moral communities.

S11 Transnational Professionals

Leonard Seabrooke, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

Economic globalization is governed by transnational professionals who strategize to influence who can create rules and benchmarks, as well as who can dominate work practices and work content. Professionals, professional associations, firms, non-governmental organizations and international organizations articulate these strategies, seeking to influence how issues are governed. These sessions bring together scholars from Economic Geography, Management Studies, Organization Studies, Sociology, and International Political Economy to discuss how transnational professionals operate and the tactics and strategies they employ in their attempts to control issues. Papers are asked to consider how transnationality matters, and if these professional interactions are distinct from established professional jurisdictional competition at the domestic level. Finally, papers may also reflect on if transnational professional interaction is linked to a general shift from professionalism as an occupational value to an organizational value. In sum, the sessions will present new and original research drawn from a range of intellectual fields on important phenomena for the RC52 research group.

S12 Globalization, Media and Professionalism in Developing Societies

Virendra P. Singh, University of Allahabad and Parvez A. Abbasi, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, India

Globalization is essentially a process which simultaneously includes and excludes the people, commodities, ideas and activities in both the developed and developing societies. In contrast to the developed societies, professions in the developing world were highly biased in favour of majority, urban, men and upper strata of the society. However, as a result of globalization and associated forces of information technology have opened up the professions to those traditionally marginalized and excluded, particularly, women, minorities and the people of lower and middle levels of social strata. Transnational flows of people, commodities, ideas and activities made significant changes in the professions as well as in degree of professionalism in the societies. It would be interesting to debate the issues emerging in different professions of these society and their conceptual and methodological implications in the context of globalization and developing (social) media.

S13 Caring and Curing, Cuddles and Scalpels, Bonds and Boundaries

Lorenzo Speranza, University of Brescia, Italy

Caring and curing are two different but connected words. *Care* refers to the process of taking care of others, while *cure* instead refers to the process of diagnosis and therapy and, therefore, is more associated to the health professions. In this session, the historical evolution of both care and cure should be emphasised and should be linked to the general theme of the interim Conference. The hypothesis is that care works more as a social bond between professionals and citizens, whilst cure is used rather as an 'exclusive' device. The aims of this session are twofold: first, to explore which

professions, and which subspecialties inside the same profession are more connected with care and which with cure; second, to investigate the inner relationship between care and cure. Just to make an example from the health professions: does the difference between clinical practitioners and surgeons have any effect on this respect? And does care make the process of curing more or less effective? The session welcomes both theoretical studies and empirical research.

Special sessions

Early Career Researchers: Meet the Future of Sociology of Professional Groups [Session reserved to Postgraduate Students, PhD Students and Young Researchers]

Lara Maestripieri, Polytechnic of Milan, Italy

The aim of this session is to bring together early career researchers and to stimulate knowledge exchange between them. Postgraduate, PhD students and postdoc researchers will have the opportunity to present their projects and discuss the relevant areas of research in sociology of professional groups. Meeting with peers will help early career researchers in establishing lasting research connections and in facilitating the dialogue between early career researchers and established academics. The session's goals are for students to present their research at an early stage of their career and communicate with scientists and the general public about their future visions of science. Presenters will be selected based on submitted abstracts and career stage, with a goal of having a diverse range of research topics and backgrounds.

Engaging Doctors and Health Professionals: What Is It? Does It Matter?

[Session linked to EU FP7 COST IS0903 'Medicine and Management']

Federico Lega, Bocconi University, Italy, Ian Kirkpatrick, Leeds University, UK, and Mirko Noordegraaf, Utrecht University, Netherlands

If we have a great doctor should we let him/her practicing as much as possible as professional? Because anything less would mean denying access to great care for patients? If that is true, why then all these attempts worldwide to engage doctors and health professional in management? Engaging doctors and health professionals in management makes the difference? And what does it mean? How does it correlates with the notion of organizational citizenship? Further, more than 100 years of organizational studies have taught us that organizations reach higher performances when someone act constantly to pursue – accordingly to a vision – strategic new directions and continuous operational improvements. That seems to make the difference between good and great (healthcare) organizations, between those that are stuck in their 'comfort bunker' and those that innovate and evolve. So, management does seem to matter. But how do we develop management in healthcare organizations? Re-launching the processes of engaging just the clinical leaders, or all the health professionals, or what else? Under which conditions can doctors or health professionals be able to assume management positions? This session will cope with the above questions, and especially welcome papers with an international comparative approach and/or cross-contamination among research fields.

The 'Spaces and Places' of Professional Work in the Post-crisis Economy [Session linked to EU FP7 COST Action IS1202 'Dynamics of Virtual Work']

Ivana Pais, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and Alessandro Gandini, University of Milan, Italy

Many aspects of labour in the post-crisis economy are reshaped through the diffusion of innovative and collaborative practices within production, professions and organization in an unprecedented way. Co-working, commons based peer production and online platforms of 'digital labour', in dialectic relationship with urban environments and the offline-online boundaries, appear to be particularly interesting phenomena to look at the transformation of the spaces and places where workers and professionals work, as these seem to become 'milieux' to enable different organizational modalities, working arrangements and routines. This session will collect contributions from a plurality of aspects that challenge this scope of analysis, from the study of co-working spaces to the processes of value creation across such physical and digital environments or platforms, with the purpose of thinking at the workplace in terms of different modalities of space, time and relations, transformations and boundaries.

First Call for Papers

ESREA – European Society for Research on the Education of Adults Life History and Biography Network

*Can stories make a difference in a troubled world? Where, when, how?
Life-based and art-based research: exploring their collective, social and political potential*

The Annual Conference in 2015 will be held in Milano, Italy
at Università Milano Bicocca www.unimib.it
from Thursday 5th to Sunday 8th March 2015

The Network

After its first meeting in Geneva, in 1993, the Life History and Biography Network of ESREA has been a forum for a wide range of researchers and doctoral students, drawing on different disciplinary backgrounds, and coming from every part of Europe, and beyond. Life history and biographical approaches in adult education and lifelong learning are very diverse, and our conferences are based on recognition and celebration of this diversity; we want to help create spaces for dialogue, demonstration, reflexivity and discovery. In 21 years, the Network has provided the basis for diverse and influential publications, as well as for major collaborative research projects and many other forms of collaboration.

Our last conferences (see ESREA's website) explored areas of research and practice in life history and auto/biography such as wisdom, emotions, embodied learning and narratives, words, interdisciplinary research, agency and structure...

The conference theme

During the last conference, Magdeburg 2014, two different topics emerged as interesting themes for life history and auto/biographical research. We have decided to combine these and to address them in our 2015 network conference. Hence, we invite researchers and diverse scholars to join us by submitting proposals for papers and workshops to explore the theme of whether life-based narrative and artistic activity can invigorate collective political and social action, in a troubled world.

The first topic was to investigate how social and political engagement can be an aspect of adult life, and of our lives as scholars and adults, as well as a relevant issue for adult education and research. It seems particularly important in the present moment. During the Magdeburg conference, some of us began conversations about the biographical origins of our social feelings, of being active and/or attentive to the social and political life of the planet, one's country, institution, and/or group. This seems to be linked to experience, especially during adolescence and youth. Recounting experiences brought reflections on the actual and possible role of research – namely life-based research – in illuminating processes of conscientization, critical reflexivity, alongside active participation, community learning, and so on. This in a 'liquid', fragile world where the role and nature of politics seems uncertain, democracy marginalized, and the power of neo-liberal assumptions transcendent, if also deeply flawed.

The second topic had to do with the power of arts, and all kinds of media, including new social media, in creating strong emotions, authentic participation, and spaces for reflection. The relationship among different media, and with spoken or written language, seems to be a very promising field for the development of life-based methods of research, and more generally for qualitative inquiry. Stories are not only made of words, as some of our conferences have already thematized (Milano 2009, Vaxjo 2010, Odense 2012, Magdeburg 2014).

Life-histories and auto/biographies seem then not only able to connect science, arts, and politics, but to become occasions for innovation, for transformative learning, for community action in diverse

settings. In these terms they go far beyond “pure research” - or a detached view of academic research as isolated in its ivory tower - to build new qualities of space for social and individual change. This is not always the case, of course: we want to investigate the *conditions in which stories can “make a real difference” - for whom and for what and on whose terms?*

The conference seeks to develop a sense of interconnectivity among life-based and arts-based narrative research, around the potential for individual but also collective transformations that might be triggered or chronicled by research. It will also be attentive to weaving into our work previous themes of our conferences: embodiment and narrative, critical reflection, social change, agency. One goal of this conference is to encourage all participants to reflect on their research and to ask themselves how can they integrate social change and community engagement, alongside an interest in the human subject and the nature of learning and education at a more individual level. Perhaps political engagement, if it is to make a real difference, requires personal reflexivity and biographical awareness, if the mistakes and even tragedies of the past are to be avoided.

Some questions

Can narration – in its many forms - help young or older adults to become more effective leaders in community development?

Can life-based research enhance the dialogue between generations and produce new forms of conversation as well as action?

How could narrative research foster human commitment to cooperative action and inquiry, and to social as well as political learning? What is the role of narration in developing a New Civics?

Guidelines for submission of paper abstracts, proposals for symposia and/or workshops

Abstracts should be submitted by **31st October 2014** to the conference organisers at laura.formenti@unimib.it

Your paper proposal (WORD format) should have no more than 500 words, Times New Roman, 12 points. The title of the abstract should be clear. Your name, institutional affiliation, phone and email should NOT be included in the abstract, but be on a separate page.

Proposals will be blind reviewed; acceptance will be announced by **30th November 2014**

Final papers (3000 – 5000 words) should be submitted by email at by **31st January 2015**

Detailed Guidelines for submission of papers will be made available at a later date.

Conference languages are English and French

ESREA's language policy is inclusive. Abstracts for the peer-review process must be in English or French. Papers and presentations in the conference will be welcome in French as well as English. Where possible, anyway, a short (1000-1500 word) summary in English should be provided.

For French, German, Italian speakers and naturally for all others: it is suggested that slides to the talk (at least in part) be in English or, if possible, bilingual. English speakers are asked, too, where possible, to provide bilingual versions of their slides. At the conference there will not be any form of professional translation, but from experience we know that there are a number of colleagues who are willing and able to help and facilitate dialogue. Tolerance, respect, mutual support and curiosity will do the rest.

Just as all participants are asked to show patience and tolerance – as well as interest and curiosity - where a language other than their own is used, it is equally important to recognize that speakers requiring some element of translation or explanation must accept that they can say less in the allotted time and that they should plan for this – perhaps by providing essential information in the form of a hand-out, for example.

Professors Laura Formenti and Linden West; co-convenors of the Network.

Call for presentations and abstract submissions

General Online Research conference (GOR 15)

18-20 March 2015, Cologne, Germany.

The conference language is English.

Deadline for abstract submissions:

15 November 2014 (papers for Tracks A, B, C and GOR Thesis Award 2015 competition),

15 December 2014 (papers for GOR Best Practice Award 2015 competition) and

23 January 2015 (posters and GOR Poster Award 2015 competition)

Submissions at <https://conftool.gor.de/conftool15/>

Further information at <http://www.gor.de>

Long version of the call: <http://www.gor.de/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/CfP-GOR-15.pdf>

Topics: Online Research Methodology, Survey Research, Internet and Society, Social Media Research

All submissions relevant to online research are welcome. Presentations in the past years covered a broad range of topics, be it online surveys or research concerning the Internet or social aspects of the Web. Since 1997, GOR has been attended by more than 300 researchers and other professionals each year who want to stay on top of new developments and best practices for their work in companies and academia.

This year's conference seeks submissions in:

- Online Research Methodology and Internet Surveys, incl. market research
- Internet and Society
- Social Media Research

The program committee invites presenters from academia, business, official statistics, the government and all other sectors. Submissions will be accepted on the basis of a double-blind peer review process.

The quality is maintained by a double blind peer reviewing system.

We look forward to receiving your abstract submission.

You can find the complete call for papers and further information at <http://www.gor.de>.

Call for Papers

19th World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics: WMSCI 2015
(www.2015iisconferences.org/wmsci)

July 12 - 15, 2015

Orlando, Florida, USA.

WMSCI and its collocated events are being indexed by Elsevier's SCOPUS since 2005. The 2015 proceedings will also be sent to Elsevier's SCOPUS

The submissions deadline for this 1st Call for Papers is **October 10, 2014**. The other deadlines can be found at the respective conference web site.

Authors of early submissions to WMSCI 2015 or any of its collocated events, and, consequently of potential early registrations, will be invited for submitting a second paper in special topics; which, if accepted, will require **no additional fee for its presentation**, as it is being informed in the web site. These topics, which will be selected by the Organizing Committee, are very important topics, but are not among the priorities of the grants. The IIS will finance this kind of papers which are important for many authors but not important for policy makers in organizations financially supporting the participations in conferences.

Selection of keynote speakers will also be done among the early submissions and, consequently, among the early registrations, because to invite authors as keynote speakers will require an additional reviewing which will be related to the author's CV, and its respective process of verification and validation.

The above two paragraphs also apply to authors of early registrations in **invited sessions**. In the conference web site you can find the steps to organize an invited session in a topic of your research interest.

Submissions for face-to-face and virtual presentations are both accepted. Details about the following issues have also been included at the URLs given above:

- Pre- and post-conference virtual session
- Virtual participation
- Two-tier reviewing combining double-blind and non-blind methods
- Access to reviewers' comments and evaluation average
- Waiving the registration fee of effective invited session organizers
- Best papers awards
- Publication of best papers in the Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics (JSCI), which indexed in EBSCO, Cabell, DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals), and Google Scholar and Listed in Cabell Directory of Publishing Opportunities and in Ulrich's Periodical Directory. (All papers to be presented at the conference will be included in the conference printed and electronic proceedings)

Please consider to contribute to and/or forward to the appropriate groups who might be interested in submitting contribution to the above mentioned collocated events.

Best regards,

Conference Organizing Committee

Call for contributions to forthcoming special issues

Social Inclusion

Special Issue “Educating Nomadic People” (ed., Caroline Dyer) – Call for Abstracts: 5 December 2014

The open access journal Social Inclusion (www.cogitatiopress.com/socialinclusion) welcomes submissions for a special issue on the education of nomadic populations. The issue will be edited by Dr. Caroline Dyer, a Reader in Education in Development at the University of Leeds (UK) and one of the world's foremost experts in the field.

<http://www.cogitatiopress.com/ojs/index.php/socialinclusion/pages/view/specialissues#nomadic>

Deadline for Abstracts: 5 December 2014

Deadline for Full Papers: 5 June 2015

Publication of the Special Issue: January 2016

Authors interested in submitting a paper for this Special Issue are kindly asked to consult the instructions for authors of Social Inclusion

(<http://www.cogitatiopress.com/ojs/index.php/socialinclusion/pages/view/forauthors>) and to send their abstracts by email to Mr. António Vieira (antonio.vieira@cogitatiopress.com) by 5 December 2014.

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Special Issue “Indicators and Measurement of Social Inclusion” (eds., Peter Huxley and Sherrill Evans) – Call for Papers: 31 December 2014

The open access journal Social Inclusion (www.cogitatiopress.com/socialinclusion) welcomes submissions for a special issue on indicators and measurement of Social Inclusion. The issue will be edited by Peter Huxley and Sherrill Evans. Peter Huxley is Professor of Social Work & Social Care in the College of Medicine at Swansea University, UK, and the Director of the Centre for Social Work and Social Care Research. Dr. Sherrill Evans is a Senior Lecturer at this same research centre.

<http://www.cogitatiopress.com/ojs/index.php/socialinclusion/pages/view/specialissues#indicators>

Deadline for Full Papers: 31 December 2014

Authors interested in submitting a paper for this Special Issue are kindly asked to consult the instructions for authors of Social Inclusion

(<http://www.cogitatiopress.com/ojs/index.php/socialinclusion/pages/view/forauthors>) and to submit their papers through the online submissions system by 31 December 2014.

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Special Issue “Inclusive Technologies and Learning” (ed., Don Passey) – Call for Abstracts: 31 March 2015

The open access journal Social Inclusion (www.cogitatiopress.com/socialinclusion) welcomes submissions for a special issue on inclusive technologies and learning. The issue will be edited by Don Passey, a Professor of Technology Enhanced Learning and Co-Director of the Centre for Technology Enhanced Learning in the Department of Educational Research at Lancaster University, UK.

<http://www.cogitatiopress.com/ojs/index.php/socialinclusion/pages/view/specialissues#technologies>

Deadline for Abstracts: 31 March 2015

Deadline for Full Papers: 31 July 2015

Publication of the Special Issue: December 2015

Authors interested in submitting a paper for this Special Issue are kindly asked to consult the instructions for authors of Social Inclusion

(<http://www.cogitatiopress.com/ojs/index.php/socialinclusion/pages/view/forauthors>) and to send their abstracts by email to Mr. António Vieira (antonio.vieira@cogitatiopress.com) by 31 March 2015.

OPPORTUNITIES

The most recent job offers are available in the ESA Jobs Bourse:
<http://www.europeansociology.org/jobs.html>