

In this volume:

- 1) President's Message pp. 2-3.
- 2) Spotlight: Glimpses from XIX ISA World Congress, Toronto,CA.
  - i. Business Report pp. 4-13
  - ii. Winner of the 2017 Essay Competition, pp. 9-10
  - iii. Panel in the memory of Cynthia Joseph, pp.11-12
  - iv. Few other panels pp.12-13
- 3) News from the regions, pp. 13-17
- 4) Member News, pp. 17-20

# RC32 NEWSLETTER

**December 2018**

**Volume #7**

Find Us:



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Warmest greetings to RC 32 members, I would like to open our 2018 winter newsletter with a few thoughts on the state of the world in the past year. We live in a time with many challenges that require feminist sociologists to continue to stand up against injustices across the globe. In 2018, nationalist and far-right parties have made significant electoral gains. Much of the current backlash centers on common themes, such as hostility to immigration, anti-Islamic rhetoric, and transnational anti-gender politics. With increasing consistency, anti-gender politics mark gender studies

an ideology that does not belong in academia and scholars who teach and research on this subject as ideologues.

Germany has witnessed the targeting of gender studies as a pseudoscience that threatens academic rigor. In France, activists have protested against “gender ideology” as a weapon whose goal is to destroy the nuclear family. Protesting queer feminist theorist Judith Butler’s visit in late 2017, effigies were burned in Brazil. The Trump administration in the United States has drafted policies that would rescind civil rights protections for transgender students and define sex according to “immutable biological traits identifiable by or before birth.” Many of these threats are turning into firm policy, and the shocking decision by the Hungarian government to withdraw accreditation from gender studies programs is the most current example. Acting on behalf of RC32, I wrote a letter of protest to Dr József Bódis, State Secretary for Education, asking him to reject the draft decree from the Ministry of Human Resources and the Ministry of Justice. In the following paragraph, I explain the importance of our discipline:

As President of RC32 and as a gender scholar in Canada, I can attest to the fact that the study of gender and sexuality in society is a long-established discipline that occupies a very important place in global scholarship. Banning these programs would set back Hungarian education in ways that will highly damage its global reputation and put its students at a disadvantage in local and global marketplaces. Teaching students about inequalities based on gender, sexuality, race, and class equips those who choose this line of research with the skills to enter into many different professions, and global scholarship needs to understand how these inequalities work in different societies, such as Hungary.

The Hungarian government's decision to ban courses in gender studies in both private and public institutions marks the first time an EU country has unilaterally banned universities from issuing degrees in a certain subject, and it is not random that the subject is gender studies. Gender scholars across the globe must continue to fight against this troubling trend that targets our scholarship and makes it dangerous for those who do not conform to "immutable biological traits" to live public lives.

During the XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Toronto, RC32 (Gender, Women, and Society) brought together gender scholars from across the globe to present research on topics important to an agenda for social justice. I want to recognize the hard work of past co-presidents

Josephine Beoku-Betts and Akosua Adomako Ampofo in making our RC32 gathering so successful. Following the President's Message is their report on the many accomplishments they achieved in the past four years. In sum, RC32 remains vibrant with a membership of 340 and an account balance of \$17,108 as of July 2018. At the 2018 ISA Congress, RC32 offered an extensive program of 40 sessions (21 Independent Regular Sessions, 17 Joint Sessions, five Invited Sessions, two Roundtable Sessions comprised of 19 presentations, and one Author Meets Critic Session). RC32 sponsored a reception at the Red Tavern Inn with the support of Sage Publications. I would like to acknowledge Jo Reger, the editor of *Gender & Society*, for helping



Jo Reger (editor, *Gender & Society*) and Melanie Heath (RC32 President at ISA Reception)

to organize a special panel on "Publishing Gender Research with a Global Focus" and securing the support of Sage Publications for the RC32 reception. After the report of the past co-presidents, you will find summaries and photos from some of these amazing sessions, and then reports from our regional representatives.

My goal is to continue to build on all these accomplishments to support the diverse activities of RC32 members and to create a sense of community and activism to support social justice for all those living at the intersections of gender, sexuality, class, ethnicity, race, age and other forms of social division. I look forward to continuing to work with the Executive Board and Regional Representatives, and with all RC32 members, towards the success of future activities and meetings.

Warm wishes for holiday season,

Melanie Heath

GLIMPSES FROM XIX ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF  
SOCIOLOGY IN TORONTO, CA. JULY 15-21, 2018



*From left to right: Solange Simoes (RC32 Co-President Elect), Melanie Heath (RC32 President), Maggie Abraham (past ISA President), Bandana Purkayastha (ISA Member of the Executive Committee), Evie Tastsoglou (past RC32 President), and Akosua Adomako Ampofo (past RC32 President)*

## RC 32 REPORT: BUSINESS MEETING

### From Past Co- Presidents Josephine Beoku-Betts and Akosua Adomako Ampofo (Pictured below)



Our term as co-Presidents of RC32 has sadly reached the end, and as we look back on the past four years, we are most appreciative of the support we received from the entire membership. We extend our heartfelt thanks especially to officers of the Board during our term: Evie Tastsoglou (past Chair), Nazanin Shahrokni (Newsletter Editor), Melanie Heath (Chair- Elect), Glenda Bonifacio (former Secretary/Treasurer), Late Cynthia Joseph (Former Chair- Elect), and Solange Simoes (Secretary/Treasurer), Regional Representatives Agatha Eguavoen, Daisy Chioma

Onyige (for Africa); Bula Bhadra, Anita Dash, Saori Kamano, Ray-May Hsung (Asia South, Southeast, East Region); Julie Matthews (Australia); Anna-Brit Coe, Consuelo Corradi, Francesca Vianello, Chryssanthi Zachou (Europe); Alicia Palermo , Marlise Matos (Latin America and the Caribbean); Nilay Cabuk Kaya, Rima Sabban (Middle East and West Asia); and Shiobha Hamal Gurung, Jaya Peruvemba, Roberta Villalon, and Patricia Tomic (North America). We are also very appreciative for the advice and consultation provided by our past President and outgoing ISA President Margaret Abraham and former Secretary/Treasurer Bandana Purkayastha. We could not have accomplished all that we did without the support and encouragement of all of you.



Over the past 4 years, RC32 membership has risen slightly from 312 in 2014 to 340 as at July 2018. In September 2013 RC32 had \$16,313 in its coffers, and as at June 2018 our balance stood at \$17,108. RC32 remains the largest RC in the ISA and we thank all continuing members for their dedication, loyalty and contributions to the vibrancy and scholarly work of RC32. We also welcome all our new members and look forward to their contributions to the further development of this research committee.

During our term as presidents there have been some key events that have had adverse effects and implications for women's lives all over the world. At the same time many of these same events have shown the resilience and tenacity of women in bringing change and social transformation in our lives. A key example is the Me too Movement which has grown to take on the nuisances of context within which sexual harassment occurs. Another is the circumstances of immigrant women, especially in

Europe and America, as well as the larger discussion of migration. While the “West” discusses and contemplates immigration, women sociologists have shown the ways in which states like Turkey, Pakistan, Lebanon, Iran, Uganda, Ethiopia, DR Congo and Kenya, which are among the top 10 refugee-receiving countries in the world, have tackled immigration but also still need to address troubling concerns such as the violence experienced by refugee women. These and other related discourses pertaining to women, gender, and sexuality have always been addressed by our membership during our Forums, Congresses, and regional professional meetings. For the most part, many of our membership are Scholar-Activists engaged in these discourses not simply from an academic standpoint but using our skills and resources to provide evidence-based research findings that will inform policies and programs promoting gender equality, social justice, and inclusive social transformation in our respective communities and globally.

### **RC32 ISA Congress Toronto Sessions**

After more than a year of planning with the Board, regional representatives, and session organizers, we the Co-Chairs are pleased to announce that RC 32 has produced an exciting, diverse, and robust program of 40 sessions for the 2018 ISA Congress. This constitutes 21 Independent Regular Sessions, 17 Joint Sessions in collaboration with other RCs and Tags (TG03, RC02, 05, 06, 14, 15, 20, 25, 29, 31, 33,34, 48, 51, 56), 5 Invited Sessions on the following topics as “Women’s Transparency: Invisible Mechanisms of Gendered and Racialized Injustices in Israel”; “Rethinking Feminist Knowledge: Voices from the Global South”; “Growing Up Female in Post-Colonial and Multi-Ethnic Societies”; “Intersectionality, Gender Politics and Violence: Shifting Contexts, Contemporary Challenges”; “Social Reproduction in Transnational Migration;” two Roundtable Sessions comprised of 19 presentations, and 1 Author Meets Critic Session representing 5 Book Publications.

Many of the papers reflect the main theme of this Congress on “Power, Violence and Justice: Reflections, Responses and Responsibilities”. Other interesting sessions cover issues including sexuality and bodily integrity, sex trafficking, religion, reproductive rights, women in the professions, citizenship and migration, care and care work, intersectionality, and refugees.

In loving memory of our late President-Elect Cynthia Joseph who would have assumed the chair of RC32 at this meeting, there are two sessions, one an invited session organized by ISA President Margaret Abraham and RC32 Past Chair Evie Tastsoglou entitled “Growing Up Female in Post-Colonial and Multi-Ethnic Societies” (featured in the next pages) and an open session organized by Akosua and I as RC32 co-Chairs entitled “ Identity, Citizenship, and Migration in the Era of Globalization: Bridging Our Work in Solidarity with the Legacies of Cynthia Joseph.”

Cynthia Joseph was, until her untimely death on 15th June, 2016, Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education at Monash University, Australia. Cynthia’s work was focused on Post-Colonial Theories, Comparative Education and Asian Studies. She framed her research around cultural

differences and inequality issues in education and work contexts with an emphasis on migration, citizenship and diversity.

We are very excited to report that among initiatives we have introduced over the past four years are two workshop sessions that have been added to the RC32 Conference program. The first is “Publishing Gender Research with a Global Focus” and the second is “Cross-Generational and International Networking for Junior/Early Career RC32 Scholars.” These workshops were specifically designed for early career scholars.

### **RC32 Meetings and Related Scholarly Activities**

As co-Chairs, the first conference for which we organised sessions was the 3rd ISA Forum of Sociology, held in Vienna, Austria, July 10-14, 2016. RC32 held 11 Joint Sessions, 2 Roundtable Sessions with 5 panels within each roundtable session. There was also an Author Meets Critic session organized by Evie Tastsoglou with 2 book publications 12 Independent Regular Paper Sessions.

During our term of office, RC32 collaborated with other organizations to plan joint sessions at conferences such as the International Committee of the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) during the SWS Winter meeting in Memphis, Tennessee in February, 2016; Albuquerque, New Mexico in February, 2017; and Atlanta, Georgia in February, 2018. One collaboration of note with the SWS was a workshop organised by Josephine Beoku-Betts, Bandana Purkayastha, Manisha Desai, and Solange Simoes during the 2018 Atlanta meeting. Titled “Teaching about Feminist Pedagogical Responses to Right Wing Political and Religious Movements in local and global perspectives”.

RC32 members such as Akosua Adomako Ampofo, Akosua Darkwah, Agatha Eguavoen, Anurekha Chari Wagh, Josephine Beoku-Betts, Judith Gordon, Bandana Purkayastha, Manisha Desai, Mary Osirim, Melanie Heath, Solange Simoes, have at different times participated in intentionally designed joint panel sessions. RC32 members from the Africa region including Akosua Darkwah, Akosua Adomako Ampofo, Agatha Eguavoen, and Josephine Beoku-Betts participated in panel sessions organized by the Center for Gender Studies and Advocacy (CEGENSA) at the University of Ghana during its 10th Anniversary Conference held in October, 2016 at which Josephine was the keynote speaker. Finally, RC 32 collaborated with the ISA and Criminologists without Borders in a joint session at the UN Commission on the Status of Women NGO Forum held in New York in March, 2016. The theme of the panel was “Women’s Empowerment, Sustainable Development, and Strategies to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls: Sociological Contributions.” RC32 members participating in this panel were Margaret Abraham (ISA President), Jan Fritz, Bandana Purkayastha, and Josephine Beoku-Betts.

In addition to collaborative initiatives with sister organizations, RC32 Co-President, Akosua Adomako Ampofo and Glenda Bonifacio (former Secretary/Treasurer) were invited as plenary

speakers for the European Sociological Association Conference held in Prague, August 25-28 in 2015. They both presented papers in the Semi-Plenary Session on “Public Policies and Solidarity in Women’s Lives: Comparing Regions of the World to Feed Sociological Imagination”. Other RC32 members participating in the conference were Maria Carmela Agodi and Isabella Crespi.

During the Vienna forum Rhoda Reddock was invited to represent RC32 in the Common Sessions where her presentation was entitled “Sociology, Feminisms, and the Global South: Back to the Future”. Akosua Adomako Ampofo was invited to be a speaker at the closing Plenary of the ISA Forum in Vienna in 2016. Her topic, “The Africa we want and an African-centered Approach to Knowledge Production”, led to an invitation by Canadian Visual sociologists to be the closing keynote speaker at the 35th International Visual Sociology Conference, Concordia University, Montreal, in June 2017.

### **Sponsorship for our Reception**

An important initiative we have introduced is for RC32 to host a reception that provides space to relax and converse, while enjoying some good food. This requires money. On behalf of RC32, we are most appreciative of the financial sponsorship we have received from sister organizations to support the RC32 reception following our Business Meetings held in Vienna, Austria in 2016 and Toronto, Canada in 2018. In Vienna, support was received from the Austrian Research Committee on Feminist Theory and Gender Studies, the German Research Committee on Women’s and Gender Studies, the Swiss Research Committee on Gender Studies, and Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) in the United States. Sponsorship for the reception in Toronto has been provided by Sage Publications. We are grateful to these organizations for their generosity and for the active participation of Brigitte Aulenbacher (Austrian Research Committee on Feminist Theory and Gender Studies), Maria Carmela Agodi and Isabella Crespi (European Sociological Association) and Melanie Heath (McMaster University, Canada and RC32 President-Elect) for so deftly facilitating reception arrangements and contributing to what we hope will be a continuing tradition of joint support from co-hosting nations.

### **RC32 Statutes**

The statutes we currently use were adopted in 1995 and first revised in 2010. The nature of documents that guide the organisation and operation of organisations are such that we discover their value and possible gaps, with use. As the context within which we use them changes over time, regulatory documents require change now and then. In Yokohama some issues emerged around representation of the regions, which then led to a discussion about other issues that required some attention. RC32 has prepared a draft document of the revised statutes for review and approval during the Business Meeting at the ISA Congress in Toronto. Board members and RC32 members were appraised of the process and sent the draft document for review and comments prior to the Business Meeting. Unfortunately, we did not receive as much feedback from the membership as we had hoped. One of the recommendations in the draft document is to

change the title of RC32 (Women and Society) to (Women, Gender, and Society) to reflect current trends in the research activities of RC32 members. The Statutes Review process was conducted by the co-presidents with Joanna Hadjicostandi spearheading the process and important inputs from Ann Denis. We wish to thank Joanna and Ann for all their efforts in preparing the revised statutes.

### **Planned Special Issue**

Together with Marcia Segal and Vicky Demos we began a conversation in 2014 about the possibilities of producing an edited book publication under the Advances in Gender Research (AGR) Series of Emerald Group Publishing Limited (U.K.), that would bring together papers from two of our presidential panels—one from Vienna and the other from Toronto. Tentatively titled "Producing Inclusive Feminist Knowledge: Voices and Insights from the Global South", the completed volume is scheduled to be submitted to the publisher for publication by 15th March, 2020.

In conclusion we believe RC32 continues to thrive as an organisation and we appreciate all the support you have shown us. Our disappointments, such as they are are twofold: 1) that we have not been able to increase the membership from Category C, especially African countries, significantly Nigeria. This is partly due to the costs of being an active member—mainly the cost of conference attendance (hotel and travel costs in the Northern hemisphere's summer months) and the difficulties of acquiring visas. A second disappointment has been the slow rate of response to RC32 issues when we have called for these—for example on the statutes and even voting in elections.

It is our hope that you will continue to show support to our new president, Melanie Heath, especially as she will be doing this work as a solo president.

May all our work prosper in the service of women and our gender work. Long live RC32!

## **WINNER OF THE 2017 ESSAY COMPETITION FOR NEW SCHOLARS FROM ECONOMIC SOUTH**

**Winner: Aiko Ikemura Amaral**

**Committee members: Melanie Heath, Manisha Desai, and Nazanin Shahrokni**

The committee for the 2017 Essay Competition for new Scholars from the Economic South on "Migration, Citizenship, Identity and Diversity in the Era of Globalization: Gender and Feminist Perspectives" is pleased to announce the winner, Aiko Ikemura Amaral for her paper titled, "‘You cannot cross the border in a pollera’: Identity amongst female Bolivian market vendors in Brazil." The paper examines how stigma attached to Bolivian migrants produces an absence of cholitas—

the women vendors of Bolivia who are known for their braided hair and pleated skirts (polleras)—in the markets of Brazil. The committee was impressed by the paper’s attention to the intersectionality of race and gender, and its contribution to the research on migration and gender by differentiating between domestic and international migrations and their implications for women.

At the ISA World Congress of Sociology in Toronto, Aika was awarded with a plaque and \$500. The International Committee for the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) sponsored the \$500 award. The International Committee promotes global social justice for women and girls through United Nations advocacy, partnerships with global feminist scholars and activists, participation in international conferences, and the promotion of women’s human rights.



*From Left to Right: Aika with RC32 Board members: RC32 President Melanie Heath, RC32 Past Co-President Akosua Adomako Ampofo, and RC32 32 Past-President Evie Tastsoglou*

## A PANEL IN MEMORIAM: CYNTHIA JOSEPH

RC 32 Invited Panel “Growing Up Female in Post-Colonial and Multi-Ethnic Societies”

Organizers: Evie Tastsoglou and Margaret Abraham

Chair: Evie Tastsoglou



### *RC 32 Invited Panel: Growing Up Female in Post-Colonial and Multi-Ethnic Societies*

Inspired by Dr. Cynthia Joseph’s book on *Growing up Female in Multi-Ethnic Malaysia*, this panel examined the experience of growing up female in selected post-colonial and multi-ethnic societies. How does state regulation of migration, citizenship and diversity, in conjunction with cultural norms, and communal practices in the era of globalization, provide particular meanings to, and help shape, the experience of young women of diverse ethnic backgrounds in the areas of education, work, sexuality and gender relations? What does it mean to be female and how does this translate into being a woman in the context of intersecting gender, ethnic/race, and class relations in post-colonial and multi-ethnic societies? What are the repercussions of state regulation in migration/ citizenship / diversity for growing up female in current migratory and refugee contexts?

The session started with a brief tribute and slide show of Cynthia Joseph over the years, put together by Evie Tastsoglou. Glenda Bonifacio presented auto-ethnographic work examining gender and in particular the construction of Filipina womanhood, under the turbulent years of post-colonial militarized Philippines, ideological class conflict, religiosity and the seeds of activism that shaped notions of social justice and feminism in the academe and beyond. Building upon the late Cynthia Joseph’s research on the “New Economic Policy” (NEP) impact on

inequalities through the everyday experiences of young female students of different ethnicities, Maznah Mohamad revisited the notion of gender and ethnicity as they intersect at the crossroads of nation-making, democratic transition and political reformation in current day Malaysia. Raewyn Connell tackled the question of the formation of gender in post-colonial societies through a theoretical overview of feminist theorists from the South who emphasize the relational dynamics of gender in post-colonial spaces and how women confront new forms of masculinized power. The latter make “growing up female” a project fraught with contradictions at both personal and collective levels. Connell argued that the patterns of agency and solidarity emerging from these processes should be at the heart of sociological research on gender. Linda Muzzin presented her research of Canadian colleges with surrounding populations predominantly Aboriginal, examining questions of gender and inter-ethnic relations from the perspective of faculty. There is a contradiction between the work and lives of those who teach literacy, early childhood education, nursing and self-determination from Aboriginal perspectives as compared to those who teach technology, trades, and business, oriented towards exploitation of local resources. Muzzin’s presentation, following a feminist, postcolonial tradition, emphasized the contradictions evident from the multiple perspectives present as compared to racist multiculturalist approach of colleges in southern parts of Canada.

## SOME OTHER PANELS

### **RC32 Invited Panel: “Publishing Gender Research with a Global Focus”**

**Session Organizers: Josephine Beoku-Betts and Akosua Adomako Ampofo**

This special session was organized by past co-presidents Josephine Beoku-Betts and Akosua



*Panelists Jo Reger, Tracey Adams, and Eloisa Marin*

Adomako Ampofo, and was chaired by Jo Reger, the editor of *Gender & Society*. The panelists included the former managing editor of the *Canadian Review of Sociology*, Tracey Adams, University of Western Ontario, the former editor of *Current Sociology*, Eloisa Marin, University Federal Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the current editor of *Gender & Society*, Jo Reger, Oakland University. The panel was geared towards international and junior scholars to provide advice and dialogue on publishing. It offered a lively discussion of the key strategies on publishing on gender issues and how to develop international publications for specific contexts.

### **Panel: What can Indigenous and Feminist Analyses Contribute to Sociological Analyses?**

**Session Organizers: Ann Denis and Linda Christiansen-Ruffman**

In this joint session of RC32 and RC05, 10 speakers addressed issues of Indigenous and feminist analyses (and their possible contributions to sociological analyses), considering Indigeneity in many parts of the world. The speakers’ self-identification as Indigenous varied ‘from not at all’ to

‘definitely’, while most said they were (at least partly) feminists and sociologists. The rich presentations explored auto-biographical analyses, complementary Indigenous and feminist contributions to theoretical analyses and to activism, the inclusion of Indigeneity in data analyses and cultivating intercultural competence in undergraduates.

**Session: Cross Generational and International Networking Workshop for Junior/Early Career RC32 Scholars**

**Session Organizers: Ann Denis, Shweta Majumdar Adur and Ann Brooks**

During this research mentoring workshop, small groups of early career RC32 scholars exchanged informally with different invited senior RC32 scholars in a series of four 20-minute meetings. The senior scholars, from different societies around the world, have all been active in RC32 (and sometimes elsewhere in ISA) for at least 10 years. Early career scholars met with peers and senior scholars from outside their own country, but usually with common or complementary research interests. Discussions were lively on diverse research-related themes.

**Session: Comparative and Historical Sociology of Women’s Careers. Part I**

**Session Organizers: Akiko Nagai and Fumiya Onaka**

Chaired by Miki Nakai, there were seven presentations by Keiko Sakakibara; Analia Torres; Linda Christiansen-Ruffman; Toyin Adefolaju; Camilla Gaiaschi; Alla Konnikob; Lejla Music. The most important point was that gender inequality is proved by various historical, qualitative, and historical data, in Europe, USA, Canada, and Japan. There were comments that conditions are quite similar between continents and that there should be more comparative, historical, and methodological discussions to tackle this inequality. There were about 40 attendants to this session.

**Session: Comparative and Historical Sociology of Women’s Careers. Part II**

**Session Organizers: Akiko Nagai and Fumiya Onaka**

Chaired by Keiko Sakakibara, there were seven presentations by Chisato Atobe; Nina-Sophie Fritsch; Hawazin Younis; Hilke Brockmann; Elisa Garcia; María del Mar Maira VIDAL; Kezia Moros-Achong. The most interesting point was that gender segregation and discrimination can be detected in various job-areas in Europe, USA, and Japan. There were discussions on similarities in career differentiation. There were about 30 attendants to this session.

**Session: Comparative and Historical Sociology of Women’s Careers. Part III**

**Session Organizers: Akiko Nagai and Fumiya Onaka**

Chaired by Akiko Nagai, there was one presentation by Pilar Rodriguez Martinez. The interesting point of the paper was a comparison of intimate partner violence between Southern Europe and Northern Europe on the basis of large-scale quantitative research. There were discussions on the reliability and validity of the data. There were about 20 attendants to this session.

**Session: Reproductive Rights under Commercialized and Politicized Medical Discourses**

**Session Organizers: Sigeto Tanaka**

There were three papers on social problems around reproduction in Russia (by E. Bogomiagkova, L. Gerashchenko, and M. Lomonosova), China (by R. Lai), and the Czech Republic (by I. Smidova). While each paper caught different aspects of medical/health issues of reproduction in post-socialist contexts, we shared findings about disadvantage of the public medical sector, commercialism and globalization of the medical market, inequality among social groups, and gender relationships in distribution of risk and autonomy.

## NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

### **Tayo Ola George, Regional Representative for Africa**



RC32 Africa Regional Representative Tayo George, Covenant University, was the Chairperson of the Conference Organizing Committee for the 1<sup>st</sup> International Women's Multidisciplinary Conference at Covenant University. The following RC32 members were invited: Prof. Akosua Ampofo from Ghana, Prof. Agatha Eguavoen and Dr. Daisy Onyige from Nigeria.

### **Vianello Francesca Alice, Regional representative for Europe**

During the term 2014-2018 my accomplishments were the organization of two sessions, one at the Third ISA Forum in Vienna and one at XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Toronto, that have seen a significant participation of European scholars both among session organizers and session participants, giving to our RC32 visibility in the European region. Moreover, in these years I have publicized the activities of our RC32 in Italy and in Eastern Europe through my networks. For the next years I would like to improve the cooperation among European Regional Representatives and improve the participation to the RC32 of Eastern European academics.

### **Alicia Itatí Palermo, Regional representative for Latin America**

During the term 2014-2018, I organized two sessions, one at the III ISA Forum in Vienna and the other one at XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Toronto, Canada.

A brief summary of the last one is the following: Gender, systemic violence and social inequality. Global Dialogues and intersectional analysis of transnational women's movements. The Session Organizers were Alicia Itati Palermo, National University of Lujan, Argentina, Argentina, Paola Bonizzoni, University of Milan, Italy, Angela M. Toffanin, University of Padova, Italy and Francesca Alice Vianello, University of Padua, Italy.

Today violence against women is a core issue for transnational women's movements. Within sociology conceptual attention has been paid to the intersections among gender, power, unequal global capitalist systems and violence. The dislocation of "representative" social approaches have

deepened the instrumentation of government policies in “regressive” as well as “democratic” states, and this has been associated with increasing social and gender inequality because of the violation of rights. Women’s movements have responded. In Nigeria movements to hold the state accountable for Boko Haram have heightened pressure on the state. In Poland, the women’s movement has seen a public renaissance in October 2016, with women striking against a proposal to ban abortion. In the US and around the world large demonstrations were held in 2017 against president Trump’s perceived misogyny/policies unfriendly to women. On the 8th of March 2017, a global feminist strike proposed by Ni Una Menos was announced in more than 50 countries. The languages were: English and Spanish.

**8<sup>TH</sup> LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN  
CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
STRUGGLES FOR EQUALITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE,  
AND DEMOCRACY IN A TURBULENT WORLD  
**FIRST WORLD FORUM ON  
CRITICAL THINKING**  
26<sup>TH</sup> CLACSO’S GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RC32 Secretary Alicia Itati Palermo, Universidad Nacional de Luján, and RC32 member Roberta Villalón, Saint John’s University, represented RC32 at the CLACSO 8<sup>th</sup> Conference, First Global Forum of Critical Thought.

### **Jaya Perumveda Regional Representative for North America (Canada)**

The international Sociological Association 19<sup>th</sup> World Congress was held in July 2018 in Toronto.

A number of Canadian sociologists took part in various sessions at the Congress, engaging and participating enthusiastically in varied topics. Melanie Heath, of McMaster University the incoming president of RC 32 co-organized two roundtable sessions, one titled Women and Gender in theory and Praxis, and the other titled Gender Research in Global perspective. Melanie also participated in a session organized in honour of our colleague, late Cynthia Joseph, titled Identity, Citizenship and Migration in the era of Globalization: Bridging our work in Solidarity with the Legacies of Cynthia Joseph, as discussant as well as presenting a paper titled Coming Out of the Shadows: How the French Government Regulates Citizenship for Migrant Women in Polygynous Unions. This session also had papers by two other Canadian sociologists, Gillian Creese from University of British Columbia on Gender, Radicalization and Precarious Belongings: The 'new' African Diaspora in Vancouver across Two Generations, and Brittany Hines, of Saint Mary’s University on Toward Developing an Integration Model for Migrant and Refugee Women in Athens.

In a joint session with RC 02: Family Research titled; Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Partnership and Kin Relations Melanie Heath along with Tina Fetner, Jessica Braimoh and Nikki-Marie Brown all from McMaster University presented a paper: Negotiating the Tuxedo Wedding: The Division of Wedding Labor for Men in Same-Sex and Straight Marriages .

Ann Denis Emerita Professor University of Ottawa, co organized the Cross Generational and International Networking Workshop for Junior/Early Career RC32 Scholars. She was also the co

chair of the session. She also co organized along with Linda Christiansen-Ruffman of Saint Mary's University, a session on What Can Indigenous and Feminist Analyses Contribute to Sociological Analyses?, a joint session with RC05 Racism, Nationalism, Indigeneity and Ethnicity. A number of Canadian scholars presented papers in this session: Tina Hotton of University of Guelph presented on Justice in the Margins: Police Clearance of Homicide Involving Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada; Tessa Penich, University of Lethbridge, on Unpacking Sexual Assault: The Intersections of Violence in Canadian Law; Abigail Seshie, University of Saskatchewan, on Black Feminist Thought: The Need for an African Feminist Standpoint; Angele Alook, Alberta Union of Provincial Employees on Am I the Beaded Flower in Your Moccasins? Research Experiences of an Indigenous Feminist in the Labour Movement and Academia.; Maritess Cedeno, University of Toronto on Feminist Gift Economy & Indigenous World Views: Understanding Institutionalization and the Social Construction of Motherhood ; Terran Giacomini, University of Toronto/OISE on Commoning Against 'Resource' Extractivism: Indigenous and Feminist Complementarity and Alliances in the Fight Against Extractivism and for a Life-Centred World ; and Angela Miles, OISE, University of Toronto on Feminist and Indigenous Contributions: What Does It Mean to be Human?

In another session on "the Gendered Realities of Crime: The Intersection between Female Offending and Victimization" Tina Hotton of University of Guelph had a distributed paper on An Examination of Provincial/Territorial Variation in the Probability of Being Charged with Intimate Partner Assault By Gender of the Accused. In the same session a number of Canadian scholars presented papers: Julie Poon, University of Guelph on An Examination of Whether and How Court-Mandated Intervention Programs Address the Lived Realities of Women Who Perpetrate Intimate Partner Violence; Hijin Park, Brock University on An Intersectional and Structural Analysis of the Crimes Experienced By and Perpetrated By Racialized Migrant Women in Canada; and Natalie Otto, University of Toronto on Professionals, Rivals and Survivors: Intersections of Gender and Violence in the Narratives of Brazilian Girls Who Committed Violent Offenses.

In a joint session along with RC 15 Sociology of Health titled Gender, Equity and Reproductive Rights in a Mobile World two Canadian scholars presented papers: Sally Ogoe, University of Manitoba, on Victimization & Stigmatization of Newcomers: Approaches in Handling Female Genital Mutilation in Canada , and Penny Dowdoff, York University on Sociology of Health and Women. Tracey Adams, University of Western Ontario co organized a workshop session on Publishing Gender Research with a Global Focus. Evangelia Tastsoglou from Saint Mary's University co-organized and chaired a session "Growing up Female in Post-Colonial and Multi-Ethnic Societies". All the panelists were invited. Glenda Bonifacio, University of Lethbridge, presented on Growing up Female in Post-Colonial Philippines: Education, Militarism and Activism, and Linda Muzzin, OISE, University of Toronto presented on Gendered Aboriginal-Immigrant-White Relations in the Canadian North: College Faculty Perspectives .

In an Author meets critics session Robyn Lee University of Alberta presented on The Ethics and Politics of Breastfeeding: Power, Pleasure, Poetics.

In a joint session with RC 02: Economy and Society, titled: Global Perspectives on Care and Care Work I: Marketization, Migration and Gender Jennifer Chun and Cynthia Cranford both from the University of Toronto presented on :Negotiating Care and the Boundaries of Unionism: Chinese and Korean Immigrant Home Care Workers in California. In another joint session with RC 02: Economy and Society, titled Theorizing Changes in Gender Regimes and Gendered Institutions, Elaine Coburn, York University presented on Trickle-Down Gender at the International Monetary Fund: The Scope and Limits of Mainstreaming Gender in Financial Governance

In a session co- organized by Guida Man, York University titled: Social Reproduction in Transnational Migration, she also presented on Transmigrant Familial Practices and the Accomplishment of the Work of Social Reproduction ; Nancy Mandell, York University also presented on Eldercare in Transnational Immigrant Families.

In a joint session with RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture titled: Media Narratives on Minorities and Cultural Studies, Guida Benchimol, University of Guelph presented on Crime in Their Midst: A Thematic Analysis of a Crime Committed in an Orthodox Jewish Community and Its Impact on Community Members; and Sara Naderi, University of Victoria presented on Iranian Women in the Global Mirror: A Study on How the Media Representation of "Real" Can Change the Reality.

In a session on: Gender, Power, Systemic Violence and Social Inequality: Global Dialogues and Intersectional Analysis of Transnational Women's Movements, Ping-Chun Hsiung, University of Toronto, presented on Feminist Praxis in People's Republic of China.

Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph co organized and chaired a session titled: Femicide/Feminicide, Global Diagnosis and Responses. This was a joint session with RC29: Deviance and Social Control and RC51: Sociocybernetics.

In another joint session titled: Comparative and Historical Sociology of Women's Careers. Part I, Linda Christiansen-Ruffman of Saint Mary's University presented on Gendered Career Inequality (1000-Present)Implications for Women and Society in Past and Future ; and Alia Konnijkov, University of Calgary presented on Beyond Gender: The Experiences of Immigrant and Non-Immigrant Female Engineers in the Canadian Labour Market. This was a joint session with RC20: Comparative Sociology, RC33: Logic and Methodology in Sociology and RC56: Historical Sociology.

Peruvemba Jaya University of Ottawa and Jane Ku University of Windsor co organized a session on Gender Immigration and Religion in a Globalized World; Jane Ku also chaired the session. Peruvemba Jaya presented in this session on Our Faith Will Keep Us Alive: Religious/ Spiritual Identities of Diverse Immigrant Women in Ottawa.

Evangelia Tastsoglou former RC 32 President has been elected the President of the Canadian Ethnic Studies Association

## MEMBER NEWS



- Vasilikie (Vicky) Demos and Marcia Texler Segal are delighted to announce the 2017 volumes of their ADVANCES IN GENDER RESEARCH (AGR) series *Discourses on Gender and Sexual Inequality: The Legacy of Sandra Bem* (#23) edited by Marla H. Kohlman and Dana B. Krieg and *Gender Panic, Gender Policy* (#24) edited by Vicky and Marcia. Both volumes feature original essays reporting research from the U.S. and abroad employing feminist perspectives and multiple research

as romance novels, career choices and college students' perceptions of binge drinking in the context of Bem's social psychology. *Gender Panic, Gender Policy* questions the gender binary in contexts ranging from elite sport to policies relating to population and the rights of trans students. The tables of contents and abstracts for these and all AGR volumes are available on the Emerald website ([www.Emeraldinsight.com](http://www.Emeraldinsight.com)) where entire volumes and individual chapters may be purchased. Selected individual chapters are frequently available for complimentary download.

- Eggers, Thurid; Grages, Christopher, PfauEffinger, Birgit; Och, Ralf (2018). Reconceptualising the relationship between defamilialisation and familialisation and the implications for gender equality – the case of longterm care policies for older people. *Ageing†&†Society†* 1–27. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0144686X18001435>
- “Care Work in Transition,” *Critical Sociology*, Vol. 44, Issue 7-8, 2018. This special issue on “Care Work in Transition” brings together noted scholars and labor activists who approach the topic from a wide range of theoretical perspectives and research foci. The articles engage usually separate areas of scholarship by crosscutting themes, scales and units of analysis to investigate the intersecting avenues of inquiry by researchers of gender, political economy, migration, social inequality, labor movements, and work. Area-specialists' in-depth case studies detail different facets of gendered care work within and across the Asia-Pacific region and continental Europe, as well as across the global North and South. They examine the complex interplay between local specificities and transnational dynamics as care work becomes a key site of state regulation and social contestation. Alternative feminist comparative analyses in this collected set of papers point

to different aspects of policy clusters and institutional arrangements, highlighting the importance of both state policy shaping household strategies and social and cultural norms for the delivery of “proper” care. These articles explore the contemporary gendering of work and employment in a global context, and the issue of intersectionality. Intersectional analysis provides insight into the reallocation of care work among women, and the class differences between families in their household strategies. Several of the contributions explore new forms of care worker’s organizing through cooperation with traditional unions, the creation of new types of unions and the development of hybrid worker associations.

#### SYMPOSIUM: CAREWORK IN TRANSITION

- Carework in Transition: Transnational Circuits of Gender, Migration and Care, by Heidi Gottfried and Jennifer Jihye Chun  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0996920518765931>
- Becoming Homecare Workers: Chinese Immigrant Women and the Changing Worlds of Work, Care and Unions, by Jennifer Jihye Chun and Cynthia Cranford  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920517748499>
- Bridging Ethnic Differences for Cultural Intimacy: Production of Migrant Care Workers in Japan, by Pei-Chia Lan  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920517751591>
- Care Work and Ethnic Boundary Marking in South Korea, by Yang-Sook Kim  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920518766397>
- Masculinity, Care and Stay-Behind Fathers: A Post-Socialist Perspective, by Helma Lutz  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920517749707>
- Duplicitous Freedom: Moral and Material Care Work in Anti-Trafficking Rescue and Rehabilitation, by Elena Shih  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920517751589>
- Reproducing Dystopia: The Politics of Transnational Surrogacy in India, 2002-2015, by Sharmila Rudrappa  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920517740616>
- Rethinking Reproductive Labor Through Surrogates' Invisible Bodily Care Work, by Anabel Stoeckle  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920518766651>
- Shaping and Reshaping Care and Migration in East and Southeast Asia, by Ito Peng  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920518758878>
- Whose family matters? Work-care-migration regimes and class inequalities in Singapore, by Youyenn Teo  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920517748498>
- Struggle for Recognition: The Politics of Migration Care Worker Policy in Taiwan, by Yi-Chun Chien  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920518763916>
- At the Intersection of Urban- and Care-Policy: On the Invisibility of Eldercare Workers in the Global City, by Kendra Strauss and Feng Xu  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920518761535>
- Reflections on Globalized Care Chains and Migrant Women Workers, by Mary Romero  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920517748497>
- The Global Governance of Paid Domestic Work: Comparing the Impact of ILO Convention No. 189 In Ecuador and India, by Sabrina Marchetti  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920517751590>

The Employment Relations and Movement Strategy Among Domestic Workers in  
India, by Rina Agarwala and Shiny Saha  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920518765925>

**FINALLY, WARMEST OF HOLIDAY WISHES AND A  
VERY HAPPY 2019 TO YOU!!!**